

THE TIMES

Miners rebel against union call to strike

South Wales miners appeared last night to be in revolt against union leaders' instructions to mount an all-out indefinite strike from Monday. Almost a third of the area's pits rejected the call. Of the 12 pits which had voted, only one backed the executive. The coal board denied union leaders' charges that it had interfered to influence the result.

One South Wales pit in 12 votes 'Yes'

From Tim Jones

Cardiff, Dyfed

Miners' leaders in South Wales appeared last night to be heading for defeat as almost a third of the pits in the area rejected overwhelmingly the executive's instruction to mount an all-out indefinite strike from Monday.

Among 12 pits where votes were known, only one supported the strike call.

The results from the pit-head meetings began to be known, the union leaders angrily accused the National Coal Board of seeking to influence the result by "gross interference" in their affairs.

That was denied by coal board officials, who said they could not possibly manipulate a ballot held under the union's own rules.

Although the final result of the ballot will not be known until tomorrow, it appeared last night that most of the 27,000 miners were rebelling against their leaders.

Before going into a special executive committee yesterday afternoon the union leaders said they would be making a full statement afterwards, but they declined to comment as they came out.

The strike had been called at a special delegate conference on Wednesday to protest against the British Steel Corporation's proposals to cut back steelmaking at Llanwern and Port Talbot. Those plans, the miners said, could lead to 50,000 redundancies in Wales.

After that meeting, Mr Emlyn Williams, area president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said he was confident his rank and file would back the strike call.

The proposed action was condemned by Mr Philip Wren, area director of the National Coal Board, as madness. He said that jobs had never been more threatened than by "this single tragic act".

Thatcher Bill to curb picketing blocked

By Paul Routledge

Mrs Margaret Thatcher tried three days ago to introduce a one-clause Bill outlawing secondary picketing, it was learnt authoritatively last night.

The Prime Minister put the proposal to a meeting of the Cabinet economy committee on Tuesday as the Government's amendments to the Employment Bill on secondary blocking and other industrial action were being published.

But senior ministers, including Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, successfully resisted the move on the ground that it would do more harm than good. Mrs Thatcher's intention was, I understand, to extract secondary picketing provisions from the Employment Bill and push them through all committee stages as soon as possible to prevent a recurrence of mass blocking tactics of the kind that closed Hadfields, the Sheffield private steelmaking firm, last week.

The Prime Minister said in the House on February 5 that she had been tempted to take action of that sort, but doubted whether such legislation could be got through Parliament during the steel strike.

The disclosure of events at Tuesday's Cabinet committee will strengthen the fears of TUC leaders that worse is to follow the Employment Bill when it becomes law. Sir Geoffrey Howe QC, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is known to be firm in his demands that the law should be changed so that trade union picketing rather than individuals should be at risk for breaches of the new law.

Water workers offered extra 2.2 pc

By Our Labour Staff

Pay negotiations covering 32,000 water and sewerage workers were continuing late last night in London in an attempt to avert a national strike, due to start on Monday.

The employers made an improved offer, taking the total package to 21.4 per cent. The extra 2.2 per cent offered principally covered the backlog of payments for parity with gas and electricity workers to last December.

The fact that there was little "new" money in the offer may lead to difficulties for union leaders who appeared last night to be moving towards acceptance.

Some of the General and Municipal Workers' Union's 21,000 members in the industry who overwhelmingly rejected the 19.2 per cent made at the beginning of this month could decide to take unofficial action.

Tito detente plea

Belgrade, Feb 21.—President Tito, although gravely ill, today set up an inquiry to investigate violations of human rights, but—unlike his stand a few years ago—he defended vigorously Russia's record.

BL management is expected to tell its workers today that it may be forced to impose on them the deal on pay and working practices they have repeatedly rejected.

Without work practices in line with its international competitors, the company will be unable to make the new Mini Metro profitable.

No 'to defence corps

A secret Cabinet committee has ruled out the establishment of a civil defence corps on the lines of the organization disbanded in 1968. Instead it favours a scheme to assist existing voluntary groups such as Civil Aid.

Israeli envoys meet

Israeli envoys to European countries met in London to discuss British moves to associate the Palestine Liberation Organization with discussions on Palestinian autonomy.

Communist U-turn

Belgrade, Feb 21.—President Tito, although gravely ill, today sent a plea for detente to President Carter. Mr Brezhnev and other world leaders. The 87-year-old Yugoslav leader has suffered from kidney and heart problems since his leg amputation on January 20.—UPI.

Optimism on steel detected in ministers

By Fred Emery

Political Editor

A gleam of light at the end of the tunnel in the two-month-old steel strike was detected last night by senior ministers. Their optimism was apparently based as much in the political turn of industrial events, as in solid bargaining hopes.

But a new flexibility was asserted in a hitherto unbending government rigidities over money; the fact that the steel plant closures and redundancies could not go ahead from March 31 as planned by the British Steel Corporation meant, it was said, that there was additional room for manoeuvre over pay.

However, any deal had to remain self-financed by increased productivity, as had been insisted by the Government; but, within the rigidly set cash limit—set at £450m of taxpayers' money by the Government for 1980-81—the two parties might now settle the details.

If this is borne out by events it signals that the Government is the least accommodating to the realities of a changing situation. Several senior ministers have made it clear in private that the strike cannot be allowed to drift on until the country meets disaster.

The Cabinet yesterday, while not apparently deciding any change of course, discussed the strike and, more important, the way it had to end.

Last night there was little support for ministerial optimism among either BSC or steel union sources. But the Government could point to the fact that the key personalities had been meeting in Brussels all day.

In public, the Government's adamant position remains, as stated by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, that BSC's £450m cash limit cannot be used for pay; it must be confined to redundancy payments, investment, or working capital. But now, so the Ministerial argument runs, the very length of the strike necessitates putting off the proposed March 31 deadline for sarting the proposed retirement programme, so the money will not be needed for redundancy payments—not yet anyway.

It can also be argued that since BSC will not, in that event, be shedding the planned 30,000 jobs by next August, the corporation will be carrying on and for longer than planned, an even bigger payroll, requirement. It is said, however, that Sir Keith himself is not so rigid a man, and is well aware that the situation is not static, but evolving all the time.

All of this could be good material for Opposition scorn in the no-confidence motion debate, now set for next Thursday, and in which both Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr James Callaghan will be speaking.

In fact ministers purport to be realising the sudden good turn of events, and plan to turn the tables.

They cite as successes, in addition to the BL vote, the ability of the police to keep open the Sheerness steelworks and the South Wales miners' vote against going on strike against the Government.

Certainly the Prime Minister was in a mood yesterday to distribute prizes.

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HOME NEWS

BL expected to tell unions today that it may be forced to impose rejected pay deal

From Clifford Webb

Sir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, insists is crucial to the company's survival.

The delay in acceptance now threatens to disrupt the October launching of the £280m Mini Metro, which Sir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, insists is crucial to the company's survival.

Industrial observers believe that the company must begin to make the Metro assembly lines at Longbridge before April. But without agreement on the introduction of working practices in line with those of its international competitors, BL cannot achieve the manning levels or work standards necessary to make the car profitable.

The unions are not due to meet again until next Friday. Faced by management's determined stand, they will probably follow the recent practice and call a meeting of all senior shop stewards. Such a further delay would take them well into March, and BL will be close to its deadline for manning the Metro lines.

Cars must be in production before the long summer closure so that sufficient numbers will be available to supply the motoring press with early test models and the trade with several thousand before the launching date.

Assembling any new car always produces innumerable difficulties. Combining a new car with existing production facilities is the motor industry's eternal nightmare.

Add to that the fact that the Metro bodybuilding line contains more robots and other automated machinery than any other car plant in Britain and it is apparent why BL management may now be forced to take its biggest gamble yet.

On February 16 the unions on the BL joint negotiating committee gave the company a fortnight to improve its offer of a 5 per cent basic pay increase, with 10 per cent for skilled workers, and an incentive scheme offering up to £15 a week more.

In return the company is demanding an end to demands for annualised and metric price increases, full mobility of labour and access at all times for industrial engineers, or time and motion study experts.

But, unusually after such long negotiations, the union did not couple the fortnight's grace with a strike ultimatum. Indeed, it is clear from statements made by union negotiators that they are well aware of a lack of widespread support on the shop floor for a strike.

Without their traditional answer to management's intransigence the unions have had to fall back on delaying tactics aimed at forcing the company to take the initiative. In that way they hope their members will be prodded into direct action which the unions can

claim was forced upon them while they were still at the negotiating table.

It is being suggested that Wednesday's overwhelming rejection of Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed convenor, has strengthened Sir Michael Edwards's determination to impose the pay deal. Indeed, union speakers at the mass meeting which rejected strike action gave a warning that that would happen.

After the meeting they gained extracts from Sir Michael's speech to Birmingham industrialists as further evidence that the company was planning to impose the deal.

He said: "The BL board and management has not bluffed and will not bluff. We will tell the truth at every point."

"If I have one plea to make to the unions it is that they should believe the scale, the complexity and the nature of BL's problems and that they should never say 'I thought they were bluffing'."

Sir Michael said the pay talks had dragged on far too long. BL did not have the money to increase its offer, the paper stops far short of giving the management freedom to make big manning reductions without union consent in the works.

Today's talks are the first serious attempt to restart negotiations since the chaotic failure of the meeting two weeks ago, when union leaders accused the corporation of misleading them over the value of their "final" pay offer of 14.4 per cent.

ISTC officials last night refused to confirm or deny that the rise demanded for their draft agreement is 20 per cent, payable in stages rather than across the board from January 1.

A demand of that sort would be rejected out of hand by British Steel. It insists that it cannot pay more than the 14.4 per cent tied to job losses, changed working practices and modification of the industry's guaranteed working week, recommended by negotiators for about 50,000 craft and general workers not rejected by the rank and file.

The latest forecast is that by 1990 passengers using the London area airports will have increased from 40 million to between 69 million and 81 million.

Mr Nott told the House, when he opened the debate on the Government's airport policy, that if demand was to be limited, quite apart from the congestion, chaos and delay that would build up at existing airports, yet another impediment would be placed in the path of the country's economic recovery.

Having accepted that expansion must take place in the London area, Mr Nott added that while recognising the controversial nature of the decision to develop Stansted, the Government saw no reason for deviating from that policy.

Although assuring the House that no decision would be reached until the recommendations of the inspector at the public inquiry were announced, Mr Nott said Stansted had really chosen itself.

However hard he had fought in his own mind against building around the existing runway so as to avoid changing this attractive part of rural Essex, there seemed no other realistic option.

While agreeing that a prime objective would be to shift as much as possible of the burden of the increased air traffic away from the London area, he pointed out that to accommodate all further growth in the regions would mean building the equivalent of two Birmingham airports every year.

Ruling out the option of a second runway at Gatwick, Mr Nott said that would involve destroying the village of Chiswick and other smaller settlements and take about 2,000 acres of agricultural land. The cost of construction would be high.

The BBC responded that the inquiry was "a proper area of public and journalistic concern". There was no suggestion that most Metropolitan police officers "are anything but conscientious and honest".

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A message prepared by the Press and Publications Department, Ministry of Information, State of Qatar on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the accession of HH the Emir, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani

ADVERTISEMENT

The Creation of Modern Qatar

Wise leadership makes provision for a secure future

Today Qatar celebrates the eighth anniversary of the accession of Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani as Emir. The nation looks back with justifiable pride at the remarkable progress that has been achieved during this period and with admiration at the way in which Sheikh Khalifa has identified and tackled the many problems inherent in such rapid and comprehensive development.

On the 22 February 1972, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani acceded to the Emirship of Qatar, the small oil state in the heart of the Arabian Gulf. His accession came as no surprise, since in fact Sheikh Khalifa had been running the affairs of state for more than a decade as Crown Prince and Chief Executive. But when the concensus of opinion of leaders of the community gave their support to the new Emir, they were in fact endorsing a programme of development and modernization which has proved one of the most interesting models of transition in the oil rich Gulf.

As a young boy Sheikh Khalifa had witnessed the decline of a traditional way of life. Qatar had long been famous for its pearl diving industry—the only major source of income in an inhospitable desert land. But the world economic crisis of the thirties coupled with Japanese ingenuity in developing the cultured pearl saw a thriving industry wither and die almost overnight. It was a classic example of the danger of depending on one source of income. The lesson was not lost on the young Sheikh in later years.

Thus it was that a young man from a powerful branch of the ruling family of Qatar from an early age began to dream of the potential future of the country, especially as the oil began to flow in 1949.

Even under the unfavourable terms granted by the oil companies in the early days of Qatar's oil industry, the discovery of massive quantities of raw energy source was a blessing to a nation searching for a future. But oil brought problems in its wake. For a small country with a small population, which for over a century had been ignored by the great powers who only wanted to protect their trading fleets, the sudden influx of foreigners and twentieth century technology threatened the very existence and identity of the local people.

The question was, could the people of Qatar respond to the challenge of a new age, or would they remain spectators on the sidelines as powerful external forces plundered their natural wealth. To face the challenge the Qatari nation in some way had to condense a process of development which had taken European countries two centuries of industrial and technological revolution into a matter of decades. A daunting and seemingly hopeless task.

This is the task which Sheikh Khalifa took upon himself, and it is a mark of his success as politician and statesman that his country has progressed a long way down the road of that development. But of course, no one man can develop a nation on his own. Development requires that the people as a whole believe in their future and make their full contribution—a point that Sheikh Khalifa made when he addressed the nation on assuming the position of Emir:

"This country's renaissance in all fields has been the product of co-operation between the State and the people, who have always sought to build their country on sound bases, free their energies of all restrictions and take their well-deserved place among other nations and peoples."

All the people of Qatar required in order to march towards the future was a leader, and this they found in Sheikh Khalifa, as an unassuming ruler, and a tireless worker determined to see his dream of a developed state become reality.

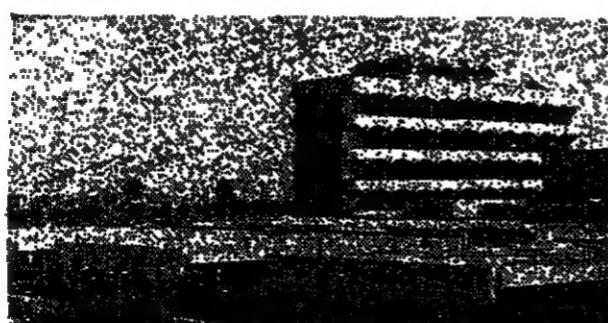
The practical application began in 1956, when the ruler-to-be took on the post of the first ever Minister of Education in Qatar—indeed the first ever minister. Even at an early age he appreciated that education is the key to the future. If Qatar was to regain its independence and control its own resources and hence



Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar

its future, it must develop trained manpower able to deal with every aspect of the State and its economy. As Minister of Education, Sheikh Khalifa introduced free schooling into Qatar for the first time—there was no formal education previously.

In order to protect the identity of Qatar against the encroachments



Qatar's new radio station will provide improved facilities for the existing comprehensive services in Arabic and English

of westernism, Sheikh Khalifa was keen to employ Arab teachers, Egyptians, Palestinians, Bahrainis—people who would understand the religious and cultural heritage of Qatar and offer education without destroying the basis of society. It was a policy which as Emir, Sheikh Khalifa has continued to adopt in every aspect of the State as far as possible.

It was also through the educational system that Sheikh Khalifa tried with some success to convince young Qataris that they had a responsibility to their country and its future—that it was more important to study technical and economic subjects than literary matters, if Qatar was to develop. But at the same time religious studies formed an important part of the curriculum. The Islamic faith was the immunization against the decadence which by the sixties was afflicting western industrial societies:

"I am not afraid of the impact of industrialization on our own Arab society provided we are not careless about our deep-rooted customs and traditions... we have a rare opportunity to bypass mistakes committed by other societies. Our Islamic way of life allows for a contemporary way of living which is not incongruous with our spirit and traditional ways. The door is open for thinking up new answers for new problems while keeping the old spirit."

The problems which required answers were—how to make sure that Qatar and its people benefited

from its natural inheritance of oil wealth, rather than foreign oil companies, and, secondly, how to make sure that Qatar's future would be assured after the oil stopped flowing.

HH The Emir has never had any doubts especially on the second question. He has firmly stated on many occasions that the key to a stable society lies in its economy. Remembering Qatar's experiences of the past he was determined that Qatar should exploit its natural heritage to diversify its income as much as possible and never again, as in the pearling days, be at the mercy of the market for one commodity alone.

Industrialization was the key. Qatar with its oil and even more extensive reserves of natural gas had the energy sources to create heavy and light industry—but

oil companies, Qatar was also an observer at the first ever meeting of OPEC in 1960, and a full member at the second meeting. Since that time Qatar has been at the forefront of efforts by the oil producing countries to ensure full control of their production and revenue, participating in every major decision taken by the oil producing countries.

The declaration of independence announced by Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani on 2 September 1971, six months before he assumed the Emirship, was a major step on the road to Qatar gaining control of its own affairs, but it was still to take another five years before the state finally gained full control of its oil resources with one hundred per cent nationalization. With the establishment of the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation in 1977 Qatar finally acquired the right to determine its future and to spend its



Qatar Iron and Steel Company (QASCO) is the third of its kind in the Middle East and produces 400,000 tons per year

slowly and cautiously—because an industry without a market is of no use. So Qatar's industrial base has been developed with one eye on local demand and an ever widening eye on potential export markets. HH the Emir's aim has always been to develop industry to the point where the national revenue, excluding oil sales, would be sufficient for the adequate survival of the State.

To industrialize a traditional society in a hot hostile desert climate is no easy task. It requires courage, determination—and most importantly capital.

For this reason Qatar, under the guidance of HH Sheikh Khalifa, long before he took on the mantle of rulership, was one of the first oil producing states to renegotiate the terms of concessions granted to

own wealth in the most appropriate way.

That way has been and continues to be to develop the people and the economy. The development of the people is achieved by an extensive education and medical care programme.

Educationally, since the Emir as Minister of Education in the late fifties established an overall educational programme, Qatar now has over 38,000 people in full time education from primary schooling to university level. Education is free and financial help is available for poor families to ensure that children are not deprived of education because of their parents' economic status.

At the upper level the university of Qatar continues to expand with



Health care is a priority in Qatar and the new 600-bed Hamad General Hospital is soon to be opened

a further 600 students being accepted this year for degree and teacher training courses. More students are taking places in technical training courses and other aspects of education directly related to Qatar's development programme. The illiteracy programme has exceeded all expectation, particularly where women are concerned and there are real hopes of eradicating illiteracy in the coming few years even among senior citizens.

If education is one prerequisite for development, then health is the other. Healthy individuals can build a strong society. This belief has led the government of Qatar to become one of the foremost states in the world in offering free health care not only to its native citizens but also to anyone residing or working in the country. The latest project in this field in Qatar is the Hamad General Hospital, a 660 bed hospital with medical and surgical facilities equipped to the latest technological standards due to open in the near future.

Less spectacular but just as important is the mass immunization programme carried out amongst the entire child population last year against polio and other endemic diseases, and the country wide programme for preventive medicine which is now under way.

The fact that such matters as health and education have been taken very seriously from the beginning as elements of development are important indicators of how seriously the problems of development are taken in Qatar. Even though according to international statistics Qatar is, on a per capita basis, one of the richest states in the world, the government of Qatar and the Emir have no illusions that the road of development is hard, and it is wise to proceed with caution. Development on a physical level without development of the society is a recipe for national disaster and one which the people of Qatar guided by HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani, have been careful to avoid.

Still Qatar was in a race against time. As early as 1960 oil industry pessimists were warning that Qatar's oil reserves would be depleted by the 1980s or sooner. Though the predictions soon proved to be wrong, nevertheless the message was correct and understood.

In the sixties the first difficult steps in industrialization were taken with the installation of a petro refinery, a cement plant and a fertilizer factory. But all were on a small scale.

The OPEC decision in 1973 to triple the price of crude oil and the Qatar government's steps to complete nationalization of the oil industry were the two crucial steps which allowed Sheikh Khalifa's dream for the country to unfold.

The new higher revenues meant that existing projects could be upgraded and work begun on new immense projects aimed at the export market. One such project which is already proving a major success is the Qatar Steel Company (QASCO) built at a cost of more than 1,000 million riyals. This year



Qatar's earth satellite station ensures efficient telecommunications and the facility to receive and transmit international colour television programmes

QASCO has exceeded its production targets and its high quality steel and prompt delivery dates have attracted many overseas customers.

Perhaps the most interesting project in the rapidly expanding Umm Said industrial town south of Doha is the petrochemical plant expected to go on stream in a few months' time.

In April 1975 the Qatar government signed a co-operation agreement with French corporation, Copenor, for the construction and operation of two petrochemical plants, one in Dunkirk, France, the other in Umm Said, Qatar. Qatar was to own 80 per cent of its own plant and 40 per cent of the Dunkirk project.

Under this unique cross-investment plan, Qatar gains French technical and management expertise—Qatar staff are being trained currently in Dunkirk. The French plant, already in operation, gives a chance for early market assessment. And because the State of Qatar has a vested financial interest in the Dunkirk plant, technical co-operation will continue on a long term basis, unlike the usual technical advisory contracts.

That such a project should have been initiated is just one more example of the care with which the government of Qatar under the able leadership of HH The Emir Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani is using the benefits of today to build the Qatar of tomorrow. When the oil runs out, as one day it must, Qatar will be well equipped with an industry based on natural gas of which there are reserves enough for hundreds of years.

Economic stability and security is, HH The Emir rightly believes, the key to the strength and security of the nation in all its aspects. Hence in this crucial period, much of Qatar's energy and effort is devoted to building a strong confident nation. But HH The Emir has always been keen to maintain strong external relations.

HH Sheikh Khalifa, one of the Gulf's most respected and admired leaders, has always sought closer co-operation between Gulf countries.

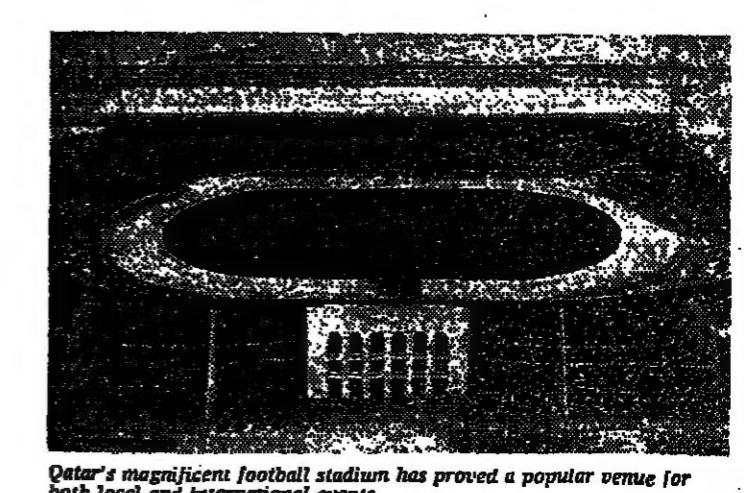
On the Arab front, Qatar is more and more playing a full part in all aspects of Arab co-operation on political, social and economic levels. Qatar is proud to be part of the Arab world with its rich heritage, and is most careful despite the pressures of industrialization to maintain most firmly its Arab character and its link with its Arab brothers.

The social and moral force which unites the society is the Islamic faith, a religion of tolerance and ability to adapt to new situations and demands, while providing the believer with a protection against modern decadence.

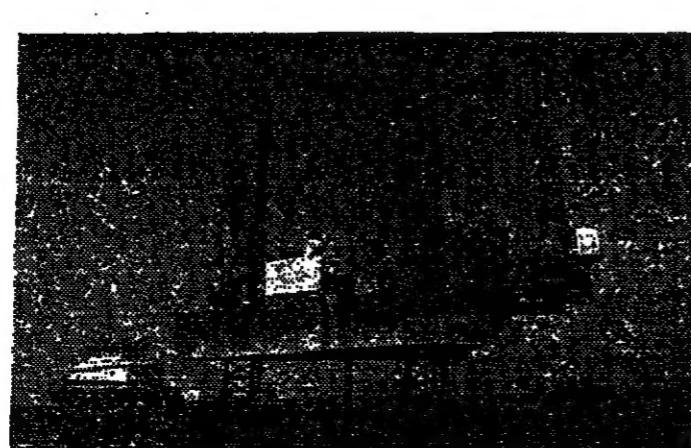
In the international arena, Qatar as a developing country is only too aware of the problems of other states seeking to secure their future, especially those not blessed with the gift of oil or other such raw materials. Through OPEC and other international agencies Qatar has made its voice heard in the call for a more just economic order in the world, and has contributed extensively to international aid programmes.

But where foreign policy is concerned, and especially with regard to relations with the West, there is one issue which overrides all others. The State of Qatar firmly supports the call of the Palestinian people for the return of their homeland and their legitimate rights.

In years to come, the people of Qatar will accept as normal their industrial society, perhaps forgetting the pain and toil which has been expended to make the future a shining certainty. What has been achieved, and any traveller to Qatar can see for himself, is the result of the confidence of the people in one man's dream.



Qatar's magnificent football stadium has proved a popular venue for both local and international events



The oil drilling platform 'Dana' owned by the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation



Self sufficiency is the aim of Qatar's agricultural policy

HOME NEWS

Ministers reject a new civil defence corps in favour of reliance on voluntary groups

By Peter Hennessy

A secret Cabinet committee on civil defence has ruled out the revival of a Civil Defence Corps controlled by the Home Office and modelled on the organization disbanded in 1968.

Ministers, however, are expected to approve a new scheme for providing money, encouragement and some facilities for voluntary groups such as Civil Aid and the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, whose skills would be of great value in assisting survivors after a nuclear attack.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, will announce the results of the Government's civil defence review after Easter. Public expenditure restraint will almost certainly prevent a commitment to large-scale mobilisation or the recruitment of a volunteer force. But the Commons will discover that a new spirit favourable to serious civil defence preparation in the United Kingdom is abroad in Whitehall after a decade of disregard and inaction.

The first fruits of the review will be the release of a pamphlet based on *Protect and Survive*, the unpublished booklet of advice to householders



Mr Robert Wade-Gery: chairman of Cabinet's home defence committee.

on what to do in the event of nuclear attack. Substantial revisions to the pamphlet were planned, but parliamentary and public interest has prodded the Government into releasing the document as soon as possible in largely unanswered form.

The most glaring gap in it will

be advice on the likely effects of a conventional attack. In recent years the procurement of the Backfire bomber, has given the Soviet Union the capability of waging an intensive serial assault on the United Kingdom without resorting to nuclear weapons.

The Civil Defence review is being carried out by Mr David Heaton and Mr Alan Howard, of the Home Office. Their papers, and those provided by other departments with an interest in the subject, have been considered by the Cabinet's HD [Home] Defence Committee, an interdepartmental meeting of civil servants headed by Mr Robert Wade-Gery, a Cabinet Office deputy secretary on secondment from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Mr Leon Brittan, Minister of State at the Home Office, said in a Commons debate on Wednesday night that it was examining the whole range of civil defence provision, from shelter and evacuation policy to the content of Home Office circulars on civil defence sent to local authorities over the past 12 years.

The chief emphasis of the review has been the encouragement of voluntary effort, with

it included factory farmers and a livestock exporter.

A diluted motion is to be proposed tomorrow by members from the Midlands. It will call on council members who voted against the Government body last year to resign from the council immediately. It will not seek their expulsion from the governing council.

The motion is aimed at those members who voted last year against allowing RSPCA staff to serve on the Government's Farm Animal Welfare Council. They felt that the council was not a true welfare body because

it was controlled by the Government, but appealed to the

National Farmers' Union.

The National Farmers' Union has wanted to divide and conquer because the RSPCA has become an embarrassment.

Mr Roberts, who is director of the Compassion in World Farming organization, wants members of the Government body

who are involved with factory

and marketing.

Mr Peter Roberts, one of

those members, has appealed to

the Government to change the welfare council's constitution.

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HOME NEWS

Metal fatigue found in crashed Buccaneer and cracks in 20 more

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Sigⁿ of metal fatigue have been discovered in the RAF Buccaneer aircraft which crashed in the Nevada desert two weeks ago. The RAF stated last night: Minor cracks have also been found in 20 of the other Buccaneers inspected so far as a result of the accident, in which both crewmen were killed.

The fault in the mainplane craft was in the mainplane front spar, which supports the wings, and other cracks have been found in the same part or in the wing itself.

The RAF does not yet know whether metal fatigue caused the crash. No conclusive evidence is likely at least until all the wreckage has been flown back to base for detailed inspection. Bad weather has prevented helicopters from reaching the accident site in the desert.

RAF spokesman emphasized that the cracks in the 20 other Buccaneers were all minor. Most could be repaired in less than a day and the entire programme should be completed within a fortnight.

The ban on operational training flights will remain until a board of investigation in the United States has satisfied itself that there were no other structural

defects in the aircraft. The eight Buccaneers still in the United States after the annual Red Flag bombing exercises will be allowed to fly back to Britain, however, and all the aircraft will remain on operational stand-by in case of emergency.

The Buccaneer first flew in 1958 and the first operational squadron entered service with the Royal Navy in 1962. The RAF ordered 43 in the early 1970s. All of them have been delivered and it has taken over the Royal Navy's aircraft since the demise of angled-deck aircraft carriers.

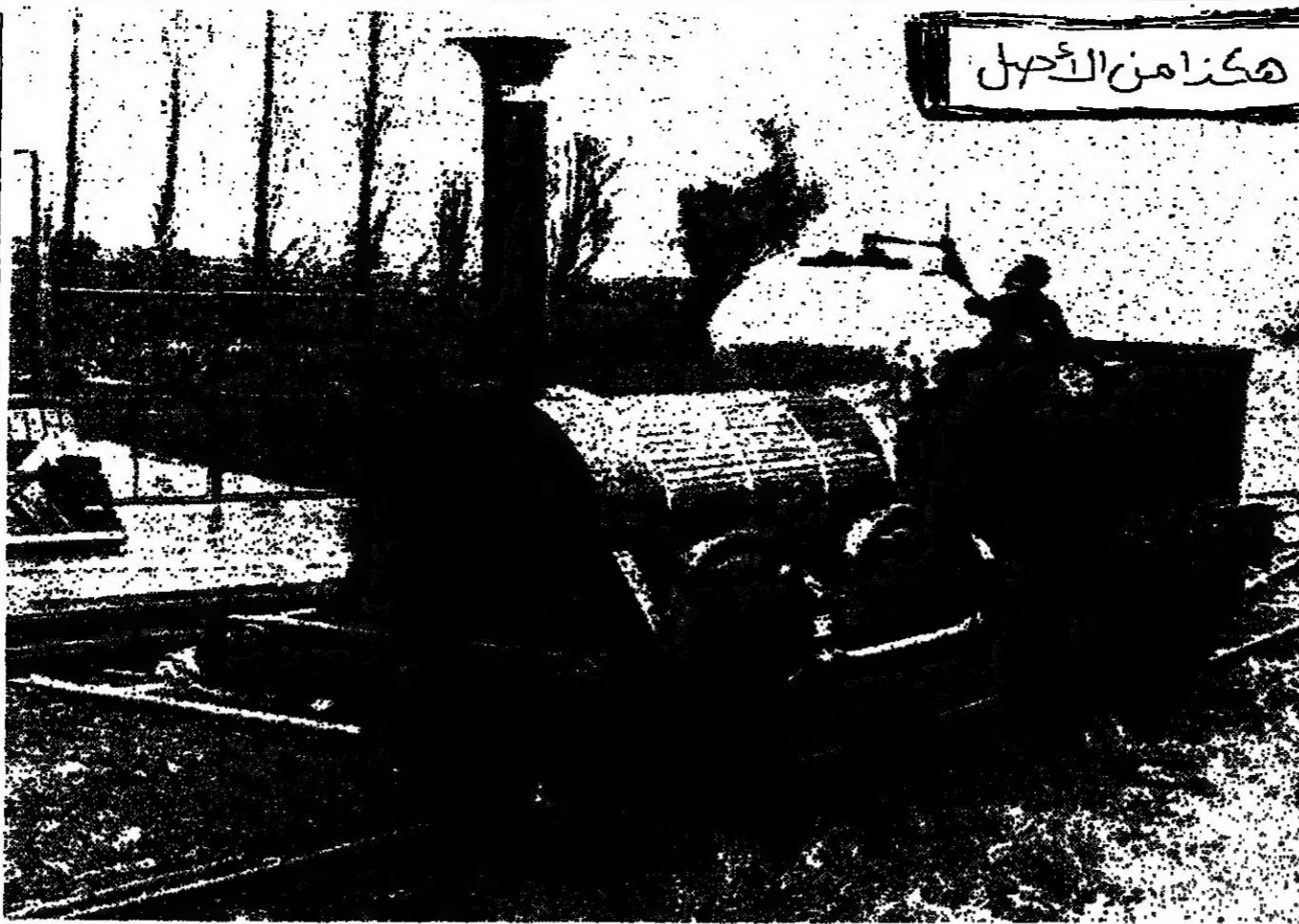
The Buccaneer was designed as a low-level strike aircraft with a maximum speed at 200ft of about 645 mph, just below the speed of sound.

Three RAF squadrons are based at Honington, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, and two squadrons at Laabach, West Germany, where the crashed aircraft came from.

The RAF would not disclose

last night whether the cracks had been found in the older, former Navy aircraft or in more recent models. Metal fatigue in the younger Buccaneers would obviously provoke more public concern.

A squadron is also in service with the South African Air Force.



The locomotive Lion, built 142 years ago, travelling on the private line of Ruston Diesels, Newton-le-Willows, yesterday after completion of restoration work by staff there.

Lower tar may not cut smoking risk

By Our Medical Correspondent

Smokers who switch to lower tar cigarettes may lower their risk of lung cancer but not of other lung diseases, a report in *The Lancet* states. Indeed, smokers who increase their consumption of milder cigarettes may aggravate the risk of progressive shortness of breath.

The warnings are based on a survey of 18,000 London civil servants whose health is being monitored by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Two forms of lung disease were found to be common in those who smoked: a cough which produced phlegm, and shortness of breath associated with wheezing.

Those who smoked high tar cigarettes had more cough than smokers of low tar cigarettes. However, the severity of their shortness of breath was linked with the number of cigarettes smoked and not with their tar content.

The report says that the findings suggest that some of the lung damage caused by cigarette smoking may be due to as yet unidentified irritants in the smoke. More information is needed about both the nature and concentrations of the irritants and their relation to the tar content of cigarettes.

Animal rights man gatecrashed dinner

Roger Barfoot, a campaigner for animal rights, who was said to have posed as a doctor to get into a fur traders' charity dinner at the Savoy Hotel, London, on Wednesday night, appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, yesterday.

Mr Barfoot, aged 38, chairman of the animal rights organization, Conquest, agreed to be bound over to keep the peace for 12 months in the sum of

£100. No charge was preferred. Police Sergeant Norman Boyd said Mr Barfoot of Pembroke Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, was twice asked to leave the hotel.

About 100 demonstrators

picketed the hotel and eight other protesters are due to appear in court next Thursday.

After the hearing Mr Barfoot said he had twice entered the Savoy in an attempt to confront

senior members of the hotel staff. He added: "I was going to ask them how they felt about holding a fur trade annual dinner and dance on their premises". He said the fur trade was despicable.

"In this day and age there is no need to kill rare and wild animals purely for the vanity of wearing their fur", he said.

"Some of them are killed in the most appalling conditions."

Americans drop objection to young British actors

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter

To the surprise and delight of the National Youth Theatre, American Equity has reversed its decision to ban the young actors from performing for a season at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, in New York.

Mr Michael Croft, director of the youth theatre, said he received a cable from the Americans yesterday informing him that the American actors' union had withdrawn its objection to the young actors' participation. He understood from Brooklyn that the union's change of heart was caused by comments in the press and appeals from various dignitaries. He said it was "a remarkable change" and the company was most grateful.

Picket case report 'not unfair'

A newspaper's court report about a picket line incident involving one of its former employees was not unfair or misleading, although some phrases in it could have been more accurate, the Press Council ruled yesterday.

The council rejected a complaint by Mr Peter Anderson, of Clifton Lane, Wilford, Nottinghamshire, of unfair and unbalanced reporting of the case by the *Evening Post*, Nottingham, and of failure to correct a serious factual error.

The newspaper reported that magistrates found Mr Anderson, a former *Evening Post* reporter, not guilty of using threatening words and behaviour when picketing outside the newspaper office. The report said the constable who arrested him said he saw him struggling with a man and that later Mr Anderson said people such as the constable were ruining the country.

Mr Anderson was said to have told the court a man approached him but he said nothing to the man and stood between the two of them. The man grabbed

him and he asked the policemen whether they would arrest the man. A senior officer had Mr Anderson arrested. According to the report, Mr Anderson denied saying that people such as the constable were ruining the country.

Mr Anderson asked the editor for a full correction.

The story gave a full version of the prosecution case and only a brief summary of the defence, missing several crucial points, he said. It had him saying nothing to his assailant whereas he had told the court what he did say. He had also given his version of his conversation with the constable.

Mr William Snaith, the editor, replied that the report made clear the case failed.

It was unnecessary to give all the evidence to achieve balance.

The prosecution case took 34 lines, the defence 54.

Mr Anderson complained in the Press Council that the quoted remark that he had not spoken to his assailant was made up.

Although the report said he denied the constable's version of the conversation, it

made no mention of his own. The report did not mention denying struggling with the man, nor that the man himself had not spoken to the constable.

Mr Snaith said the double-column headline, "Reporter is cleared of threat charge", and the introduction showed beyond all doubt Mr Anderson was cleared. The reporter, Mr Richard Cox, accurately reported what Mr Anderson said.

At the council's request Mr Snaith provided photocopies of the reporter's notes. An independent shorthand expert confirmed Mr Cox's transcript with very minor variations.

The Press Council's adjudication was:

"Although, probably in pursuit of brevity, some phrases were used which could have been more accurate, the Press Council does not think the article was unfair or misleading. It gave substantial prominence to the case having been dismissed. The complainant against the *Evening Post*, Nottingham, is rejected.

Russian replaced as RPO conductor

By Our Music Reporter

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has replaced Yuri Temirkanov, the Russian, as conductor for two concerts next month. It has been unable to find out from the Russian agency, Gosconcert, whether he would fulfil the engagement.

Mr Temirkanov was appointed the orchestra's principal guest conductor last September. The orchestra had hoped his engagements would not be affected by the restrictions imposed by the Russian Government on its artists' appearances in the West.

Other winners are: Specialist Writer of the Year: Angus Macpherson, news correspondent of the *Daily Mail*. Commended: Christine Doyle, *The Observer*.

Sports Journalist of the Year: John Arlott, *The Guardian*.

Commended: Patrick Collins, *Evening News*, London; Julie Welch, *The Observer*.

Columnist of the Year: Sam White, *of Evening Standard*, London. Commended: Paul Foot, *Daily Mirror*; Barry White, *Belfast Telegraph*.

Critic of the Year: Anthony Burgess, *The Observer*. Commended: Peter Beynon, *The Observer*.

Photographer of the Year: Graham Wood, *Daily Mirror*. Commended: John Dawes, *Daily Star*; Michael Maloney, *Daily Mirror*.

News Photographer of the Year: Kent Gavin, *Daily Mirror*, for its Mountain funeral pictures. Commended: Colin Dwyer, *Evening Standard*, London.

A special award was made to David Leigh, of *The Guardian*, for his investigative reports on official secrecy.

However, the RPO's management, after weeks of vain attempts, felt it could wait for confirmation no longer. It announced yesterday that the concerts on March 2 and 4 would be conducted by Sir Alexander Gibson, the musical director of the Scottish National Orchestra.

The soloist for the March 4 concert was scheduled to be Elise Wirsaladze, the Russian pianist, but the RPO was similarly unable to get confirmation of her appearance. It has arranged for Alicia de Larrocha, the Spanish pianist, to appear in her place.

Mr Travers Clark, the pianist, was unable to appear with the RPO at a concert on January 31, but Gidon Kremer, the violinist, is in London, and will be playing with the orchestra on February 28.

Meanwhile, the Philharmonic Orchestra has received confirmation of the visit early in March by Emil Gilels, the pianist, and is hopeful that that will not be disrupted.

Dairy men protest at butter subsidy

By Hugh Clayton

The National Council of Social Service is concerned that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not responded to its proposals for tax reforms to help agriculture.

Mr Nicholas Hinton, director of the council, said yesterday that a letter had been sent to Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, on December 20 requesting a meeting by its fiscal working party. A further letter was sent at the beginning of this month.

We are dismayed that the Chancellor has not seen fit to discuss the proposals with members of the working party. There was particular concern about the Chancellor's lack of response as tax changes he had introduced had affected voluntary organizations very severely.

The increase in VAT had added an estimated £4m to their running costs and the reduction in the standard rate of income tax from 33 to 30 per cent had lost them £3m in recoverable tax, Mr Hinton said.

The proposals put to the Chancellor in December included a reduction in the minimum grant for eligible deeds of covenant from seven to four years; the introduction of school milk through a rate support grant was paid into the EEC fund; a further £50m would be available from the fund. "We should then be able to sell cheap school milk to all children under 19. That would add 8 per cent to milk sales and cut the cost of milk on the doorstep", Mr Hinton said.

Mr Travers Clark said that tighter control over sales of New Zealand butter in Britain would make it possible gradually to reduce the subsidy paid through the price of bottled milk.

Mr Hinton said that EEC authorities appeared to be about to grant New Zealand a large quota of butter sales in February 28.

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Charities' plea for tax reform 'ignored'

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In our report headed "Jail for two of gang who robbery house in Clifton" we referred to Mr Speer as one of the gang's victims and stated that property worth £7,325 was stolen from him at the President Hotel. Mr Speer has asked us to make it clear that although a victim of the gang he is not and never has been a homosexual.

Mr Albert Speer

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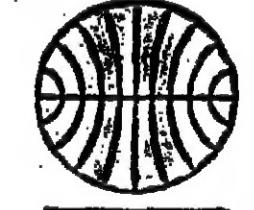
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WEST EUROPE

Dutch Government survives worst crisis

From Robert Schul
Amsterdam, Feb 21
The Dutch Government, led by Mr Andries van Agt, tonight survived the worst political crisis of its two years in power. The resignation yesterday of Mr Frans Andriessen, the Finance Minister, will not be followed by the resignation of other members of the Cabinet.

In a statement to the Lower House of Parliament, Mr van Agt said that the Cabinet had tried to convince Mr Andriessen to change his mind, but the minister has persevered in his decision to step down.

The Cabinet, a centre-right coalition of Christian Democrats and conservative Liberals, must now seek a new finance minister. Mr Andriessen is a Christian Democrat and one of the other Christian Democratic ministers already in the Cabinet would be the preferred choice. But none of them has shown much enthusiasm for taking over the post.

Mr Andriessen resigned after the Cabinet failed to reach agreement on the amount by which public spending should be cut. Most ministers accepted compromise proposals made by the Prime Minister but Mr Andriessen felt himself unable to stay in office unless more drastic cuts were made.

Queen Juliana interrupted a skiing holiday in Austria and flew home today because of the crisis. Mr van Agt met her in Zurich and briefed her on the situation during the flight to the Netherlands.

Some effort has been made by the Christian Democrats and Liberals to prevent a collapse of the coalition. Both parties would probably have suffered badly in the election which would have followed a Cabinet resignation. Recent opinion polls indicate that the Opposition—the Labour Party and even more the left-wing Liberal Democrats—“66”—have been making substantial gains.

This is the second time that a minister has resigned from the van Agt Cabinet. In March, 1978, just 75 days after Mr van Agt came to power, the Defence Minister, resigned over the neutron bomb against which he held strong personal views. He was replaced by Mr Willem Scholten, who is now being named as one of the candidates to succeed Mr Andriessen.

French petrol price rise

Paris, Feb 21.—The price of petrol in France goes up tonight by eight centimes a litre making super grade cost £3.35 francs a litre—roughly £1.68 a gallon—in the Paris region. Prices of domestic fuel and diesel oil prices are to rise by 11 times a litre.



Demonstrators against a planned nuclear power station in Brittany carry boards reading "Nuclear : death" and "Work for gravediggers".

M Marchais launches communist human rights inquiry group

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 21

So if ever has M Georges Marchais, the French Communist Party's secretary-general, been as brutally provocative, as truculent, and as aggressive as at a press conference yesterday, when he proclaimed the Communists to be the most ardent defenders of human rights in the world. He also announced the creation by his party of a commission of inquiry, composed almost exclusively of Communists personalities, to investigate violations of human rights in both capitalist and socialist countries.

The commission's first task was the publication of an indictment of such violations in the past 20 years which, he said, would be submitted to the United Nations. It does not once mention the Soviet Union's present responsibilities in this field.

By contrast, there is something almost pathetic in the way in which M Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist Party leader, clings desperately to the union of the left with the Communists.

In an interview in France Soir today he rejects any compromise with the right, and expresses the firm conviction that it would be impossible for the Communist leadership to call on its troops to vote for any other than the Socialist candidate in the second ballot of the presidential elections in 1981.

M Marchais' guiding axiom has always been that attack is the best form of defence. But this time, in an attempt to put

an end to the doubts and misgivings raised among the communists rank-and-file by the leadership's unconditional alignment with Moscow on the invasion of Afghanistan and the Sakharov affair, he showed that he was prepared to go to any lengths to turn the tables on the party's critics—and opponents.

He was making use of journalists, half-truths and plain lies in order to prove his point and to build up his case against the "crimes" of capitalism and imperialism.

His press conference marks a complete reversal of the party's critical stand on the limitations of freedom in the Soviet-bloc countries a few years back.

The fact that Mr Leonid Pilatov, the dissident Soviet mathematician now living in France, whom M Marchais had exiled from Russia, was refused admittance to the press conference.

"Freedom guides our steps," the Communist leader proclaimed, taking a verse out of the *Marseillaise*. "We are the fighters for happiness, for the rights of the workers, for democracy, for equality, for the liberation of women, and for peace," he added. And he condemned the atrocities of capitalism, which since its beginning, exploits, robs and oppresses millions upon millions of workers."

He warned West Germany and Japan that through their behaviour during the Second World War, they were discredited from giving lessons to others on human rights.

Britain asks commission to act quickly on lamb ban

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

The British Government urged the EEC Commission yesterday to seek an injunction quickly against the French ban on imports of British lamb. Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in London that he was "surprised and disappointed" that the Commission had taken no action as promised on Monday.

Mr Finn Gundelach, the EEC Commissioner for agriculture, told Mr Walker in Brussels on Monday that the Commission authorities would act on Wednesday. British ministers decided after a Cabinet meeting yesterday that a statement was necessary because the Commission's enthusiasm for action had waned since January.

In January the Commission asked the British Government to estimate the cost of the ban, which means that lamb prices in Britain are depressed below the level guaranteed to farmers by the Government. The bill sent by Mr Walker to Brussels in January totalled £30m, and since then the cost of making up the guaranteed price to farmers has been more than £100 a week.

Mr Walker said that it was five months since the European Court of Justice had found against the French ban. The lethargy of the Commission contrasted sharply with its quick action against a pig subsidy used

Four on trial for murder and abduction in Berlin

From Greville Spitzer
Berlin, Feb 21

Four people accused of belonging to an extreme left-wing group went on trial in West Berlin today charged with a series of terrorist attacks in the city.

The 243-page indictment, supported by 180 pages of evidence, recalls some of the worst terrorist outrages committed here in the 1970s.

Franz Goerlitz Rollnik, aged 28, Frau Gudrun Schuermer, aged 29, Frau Angelika Godek, aged 25 and Herr Klaus Viehmann, aged 25, are accused of membership of the "June 2 Movement".

They are charged in various configurations, with the murder of Günter von Drenckau, West Berlin's senior judge, in November, 1974; the kidnapping of Dr Peter Lorenz, chairman

of the Berlin Christian Democratic Party, in February, 1975; the kidnaping in November, 1977, of Herr Walter Palmers, the Austrian industrialist who was released for a ransom equaling £1.1m.; and the springing from jail of Till Meyer, an extremist, in May, 1978.

Frau Rollnik and Frau Godek are also charged with aiding Herr Meyer's escape to Bulgaria, where they were received by the June 2 group with various bank robberies, urging forged documents and possession of weapons.

When a defence request that the four defendants be put together in one dock was turned down, the defendants began yelling abuse and were removed from the courtroom.

The trial will continue next Tuesday.

Phone message not illegal

From Our Correspondent
Paris, Feb 21

Does a recorded telephone message constitute a broadcast?

The lawyers and courts of Metz, France, have finally decided that it does not, provided the message is played only to subscribers who are paying for their call.

This legal case means that the French Socialist Party has been found not guilty of breaching Article 1149 of the Electoral

Code, which prohibits the distribution of electoral propaganda on election days.

The case was brought by M Jean-Marie Rausch, Mayor of Metz, on the day after the first round of the March, 1978 elections. He had obtained evidence from a bailiff that the federation's answering service was playing an election message on voting day.

The court, yesterday, dis charged M Serge Barcellini, the federation secretary and awarded no costs against him.

Even so, the code, which prohibits the distribution of electoral propaganda on election days, remains in force.

The National Cancer Institute of the United States is reported to have decided to begin clinical experiments in America; and the Swiss-based pharmaceutical firm Hoffman La Roche bought the patent on Norgamycin in December 6 last.

Even so, the European experiments eventually show that only squamous cell cancer of the head and neck, and not other types, responds to the new synthetic drug. Dr Gómez's discovery will nevertheless be an extremely welcome addition to the pharmacopoeia of the world. International statistics are incomplete, but an example which indicates the importance of such a find lies in the fact, as Dr Gómez points out:

"There are 36,000 cases a year of this type of tumour of the head and neck in the United States alone, and most of them die fairly quickly."

In July, 1978, Norgamycin first came out of the laboratory for tests in the Asurias General Hospital in the northern Spanish city of Oviedo. The results were quite encouraging: remission in 14 out of 34 patients, and of the 14, six showed complete remission of the tumours.

Even so, the patients, who showed complete remission, however, will not be pronounced cured, according to standard medical practice, until at least five years have passed without any sign of recurrence of the illness.

Dr Gómez explained: "Within the year we will have completed clinical trials on 200 patients in 47 medical centres. Only after those trials will we know for sure if Norgamycin really works. It is proven as successful as we hope, then we will have perhaps a new therapy for cancer, a non-toxic drug working on the transformation of cells. It'll be a new departure."

He pointed out that one of the purposes of the clinical trials is to offer an indication of which types of cancer respond to Norgamycin. In the Oviedo trials, he said: "We found it effective against epidermoid carcinoma of the head

and neck. That includes skin cancer and cancer of the mucous membranes. We must study this medicine in the treatment of all types of cancer, to see if there is another type which is sensitive to the drug; but so far, with the limited number of patients studied, we can only say that epidermoid cancer of the head and neck appears sensitive".

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While the present tests are underway, Dr Gómez continues his research at the state-run Puerto de Hierro Clinic, the Spanish capital, where, as head of the biochemistry research department, he works with 18 Spanish chemists and biologists, including his wife, Mariflor, whom he describes as "my closest collaborator, my right and my left hand".

He spoke of his present work: "We have been developing analogous or chemically related compounds to Norgamycin, which means to say that we are trying to

continue from page 1

try to preserve minority domination in Rhodesia by obstructing its ZDP officials by "marauding" games of armed supporters of other political parties."

OVERSEAS

Muzorewa campaign jamboree offers four days of food and sideshows to woo voters

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Feb 21

Apparently working on the principle that if you fill people's bellies their hearts and minds will follow, Bishop Abel Muzorewa's UANC party today launched a huge political jamboree here at which free food and drink are being offered to all comers.

The event is billed as a *Nurugwadap* (greatest) rally and its organizers say it is the biggest political occasion ever seen in the country. Certainly there has never been anything quite like it before.

In addition to the food and drink there will be all sorts of sideshows such as tribal dancing, choir singing, demonstrations of boxing, weight-lifting, karate and football as well. There will even be political discussions and speeches for those inclined.

According to M Ayub Kara, the UANC election director, professional caterers have been hired to provide two meals a day (meat, sada, relish and beer) for 160,000 people.

Asked what happens if the whole of Salisbury flock to the Zimbabwe Grounds in order to partake of the UANC's hospitality, he replied that the party had contingency plans for feeding up to one million people.

Journalists and foreign observers are also catered for. Clearly aware of the press's

reputation for seeking after liquid refreshment as well as the truth, "drinks and chaperones" are available in a caravan. There is also a telephone, Mr Kara said almost as an afterthought.

However, hours after the rally began today, only a few hundred people had turned up. The poor attendance may have been caused by a heavy storm that broke just as the rally was beginning, or because most people were at work. Nevertheless, fires were being lit and dozens of large drums were being filled with sada in preparation for the evening meal. Queues had started around trucks dispensing cold drinks.

Twenty large striped marquees had been erected to provide shelter for the hundreds of people expected to sleep over during the four day rally.

The UANC's decision to hold this big and extended rally has provoked cries of "unfair" from other parties. Mr Willie Masiarwa, publicity secretary of the Patriotic Front, criticized the fact that the UANC would control the main political arena in the country during the four main days before next week's election.

He also said that, unlike other parties, the UANC was not being restricted in the number of buses and trains it could hire. It is hiring 160 buses and more than 500 buses to bring people to Salisbury. When Mr Francois Poncer, his French counterpart,

Bishop Muzorewa is due to deliver his end-of-campaign speech at the rally on Sunday.

The holding of this event raises a more serious question about the financing of election campaigns. Political parties do not have to disclose either the source or the extent of their funds.

Bishop Muzorewa has consistently refused to say where he is getting his money from, although it is widely believed that he is being heavily supported by business interests in South Africa, Rhodesia and Britain. What is certain, however, is that the UANC has an almost limitless supply of money to spend on the election—probably more than all the other eight parties put together.

Such an adventure is one that Mr Pieter Botha, the Prime Minister, is anxious to avoid though he has said that if such a situation developed he would have to ask Parliament to decide on action to protect South Africa's interests.

But this does not explain why the Foreign Minister has headed straight for Paris which is relatively unconcerned about Rhodesia's outcome.

It is suggested that he is trying to elicit the support of France—one of the five Western nations involved in negotiations for a South African proposal to establish a demilitarized zone on Namibia's northern border with Angola.

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OVERSEAS

Israeli envoys meet to counter British plan for Palestinians

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent
Israeli ambassador from 14 countries in Western Europe held an emergency meeting in London yesterday, to consider the latest moves by Britain and other EEC countries to associate the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) with the peace process.

The outcome of the occasion can be gauged by the fact that Mr Yosef Cidronov, director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, flew to London to chair the meeting. Later he called on Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, and today he will have further talks with Sir Michael Palmer, the Permanent Under-Secretary.

Israel, under Mr Begin's leadership, remains totally opposed not simply to recognition of the PLO, but to any dealings with it whatever. The principal culprit, in Israeli eyes, for what is seen as an attempt to undermine this policy, is the British Government.

Lord Carrington, since his recent visit to Saudi Arabia, has made no secret of his belief that the PLO must be brought into the negotiations for a settlement, in order to follow up the Camp David accord between Egypt and Israel. This was an important step, in his view, but only "half way" towards a solution.

Britain asked to keep out of autonomy talks

From Christopher Walker

Anglo-Israeli diplomatic relations are becoming increasingly strained by persistent reports that Britain is leading an EEC initiative to secure an amendment to Resolution 242 of the United Nations Security Council, which would recognize the right of Palestinian self-determination.

The Israelis regard the reported British moves as a severe threat to the Middle East peace process and particularly to the continuing talks on Palestinian autonomy which now appear unlikely to be completed by the target date of May 25 agreed at Camp David.

Last night Mr Yigael Yadin, the Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Democratic Movement, added his voice to the angry attacks which have been made on Britain in the last week by Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, and the Ambassador-designate to Egypt, Mr Ben-Elissar.

Expressing Israeli "annoyance", Mr Yadin called on the British Government to give the autonomy talks a chance to succeed and to desist from efforts to secure a change in the wording of Resolution 242, which was drawn up in 1967 with Britain as the main author.

He claimed that the move would harm the complicated peace process, and he called on the British Government to leave matters to Israel, Egypt and America, the countries which, he said, had shown the courage to try and reach agreement in the first place.

Mr Yadin's speech came on the eve of the meeting of 14 ambassadors held in London today, to plan a diplomatic offensive to counter any attempts to alter the wording of Resolution 242.

One tactic the Israeli diplomats are expected to adopt is to try to convince their various host governments, including Britain, that the Palestine Liberation Organization is still a dangerous terrorist group.

King Khalid well enough to receive visitors

Riyadh, Feb 21.—King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, who is recuperating in a Riyadh hospital from exhaustion, received a number of local dignitaries today, the Saudi press agency said.

It made no mention of his state of health, but political sources said the fact that the King was allowed to receive visitors was an encouraging sign in itself. He entered hospital on Monday.

Tanzania puts pressure on Uganda leader

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Feb 21

The Tanzanian Foreign Minister has visited Uganda with a message from President Nyerere urging President Binaisa to resolve the latest crisis in his Government by reconciling the opposing factions.

President Binaisa has been under pressure from members of his own Government since removing Mr Paulo Muwanga as interior minister last week. The dismissal has been popular because Mr Muwanga was blamed for failing to control a serious crime wave.

Government sources in Kampala said that President Nyerere had threatened to withdraw the estimated 15,000 Tanzanian troops who have remained in Uganda since overthrowing former President Idi Amin.

The same sources said that the Tanzanian President was supporting demands from one section of the ruling party for Mr Muwanga to be returned to the Cabinet. Mr Binaisa, however, says his efforts to project an image of stability will be negated if he is forced to reinstate Mr Muwanga, who has been named as ambassador to Geneva.

Troop move towards Pakistan reported

Peshawar, Feb 21.—Soviet troops in Afghanistan are moving in force across to the Pakistan border and could be seen to seal it off. Muslim guerrillas and independent sources in contact with Afghan refugees said today.

They said that Soviet troops had moved out of the garrison town of Jalalabad, 50 miles from the Khyber Pass, and into the border province of Paktia in the past few days.

The Durand Line frontier, named after the British diplomat who drew it in the last century, runs across mountainous terrain separating Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province from Afghanistan. It is frequently crossed by Afghan insurgents taking arms and ammunition to fight the Communist regime in Kabul and returning with intelligence on Soviet and Afghan Army movements.

Insurgent movements with headquarters in Peshawar, an hour's drive from the border, have said guerrillas will cross to strengthen anti-Soviet forces.

Lord Clarendon (formerly Sir Tufton Beaufort), who said that until it was recognized that Palestinian rights merit self-determination and until the PLO was accepted as their representative body, there was no hope of a lasting peace. This was a clear field, he added, in which a British lead in the EEC was clearly indicated.

The term "representatives" in this statement is taken to be the PLO, as was made clear in a speech during the same debate by Lord Clarendon (formerly Sir Tufton Beaufort), who said that until it was recognized that Palestinian rights merit self-determination and until the PLO was accepted as their representative body, there was no hope of a lasting peace. This was a clear field, he added, in which a British lead in the EEC was clearly indicated.

Pakistan fears that Soviet troops could launch "hot pursuit" operations across the border after the guerrillas.

President Zia ul-Haq said yesterday that Pakistan would defend its independence and territorial integrity at any cost.

One source said: "We believe the Soviet troops will try to seal the Durand Line just as the United States tried to cut the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Indochina. It remains to be seen whether the Soviet Army will have any more success."

The sources said that fighting continued in Paktia and in Badakhshan Provinces.

Israeli anger with Britain's new moves on the Middle East are regarded as the reason why next week's ninth round of ministerial negotiations on Palestinian autonomy has suddenly been switched away from London to elsewhere in Europe. Officially the reasons for the move are described here as "technical".

The diplomatic friction between Britain and Israel comes as the British Ambassador to Tel Aviv is about to leave. Next Monday Sir John Mason, who has been in the post since 1977, leaves to become High Commissioner in Australia, and will be replaced by Mr John Robinson, Minister at the Washington Embassy.

The gradual creation of normal ties between Israel and Egypt advanced today with the arrival of a party of 22 Egyptian officials and diplomats who will staff the first Arab embassy in Israel. Initially the Egyptians will operate from a suite of heavily guarded rooms in the Tel Aviv Hilton while they search for other premises.

Earlier this year Israel opened its first embassy in Cairo and ambassadors from both countries will present their respective credentials on February 26. One of the main tasks facing both embassies will be to make visa arrangements to facilitate travel across the newly opened frontier.

Within two weeks direct flights between Cairo and Tel Aviv are due to begin under an interim agreement which has now been signed. Two flights a week in either direction are planned by El Al, Israel's national carrier, and Lotus Airlines, a recently formed subsidiary of Egyptair.

Next Monday General Kamel Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Defence Minister, arrives in Israel with a team of senior army officers for a five-day visit as guests of his Israeli counterpart, Mr Ezer Weizman.

Pentagon reduces estimate of Soviet troop numbers

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 21

The Pentagon has reduced its estimates of the number of Soviet troops occupying Afghanistan. The Defence Department now believes there are 70,000 troops in the country and a further 30,000 on the Soviet side of the border, according to a spokesman.

Earlier estimates put the Soviet strength in Afghanistan at about 95,000.

The spokesman said the lower estimate was due to any withdrawal of Soviet troops but to a "refinement" of earlier figures. It appears that the 30,000 troops now thought to be on the Soviet side of the border were originally included in the 95,000 total.

Meanwhile State Department officials said today that Soviet



Tableau of war: Afghan guerrillas stand proudly on a Soviet armoured vehicle captured east of Kabul.

Kabul shuts up shop in protest

Kabul, Feb 21.—Nearly all shops in the city and big bazaar closed today in protest against the Soviet Army's presence in Afghanistan. The shutdown came after the distribution of letters during the night by Muslim nationalists.

Many shops were boarded up or had iron grills across them, indicating that the closure might last for some time.

Soviet police were seen trying to force one shopkeeper to pull down his shutters and an angry crowd gathered in an attempt to stop them.

Security police and uniformed police tried throughout the city to persuade shopkeepers to reopen.

With security deteriorating throughout the country, the regime can ill afford to see the capital turn openly against it.

—Agence France-Presse.

The atmosphere here is electric and observers feel that the slightest incident could create widespread disorders. Although Soviet troops were more in evidence today than kept in the background leaving the Afghan Army and Police to do the persuading.

A worried-looking Governor of Kabul was seen in his limousine observing the extent of the shutdown which is the first big outbreak of civil disobedience in the capital. The strength of the response has surprised many observers.

It follows campaigns already launched in Kandahar in the south and Herat in the west.

But a strike in the capital is considered much more serious for the already beleaguered regime of Babrak Karmal.

With security deteriorating throughout the country, the regime can ill afford to see the capital turn openly against it.

—Agence France-Presse.

The revolutionaries also paid tribute to "our dear youth who... by their movement have thrown the enemies of religion off the scene", a remark taken to include the embassy students who have sworn to follow the Ayatollah's line unswervingly.

Mr Qotbadeh said today that on the day of his arrival was not linked with his remarks separating the inquiry from the hostages' release.

Mr Qotbadeh's message seemed bound to reinforce resistance to a compromise on the hostage issue.

The students' statement, which gained extra prominence by being broadcast on the state radio, said America must return the runaway Muhammad Reza Shah Pahlavi together with his property.

The more delay in this connection, the more the anti-American nature of America will be known to the people of the world. If the Shah is not accredited, any expectation of America about the reconsideration of the situation of the hostages is a foolish expectation.

The United States Administration and Dr Kurt Waldheim,

Setback to hopes of freeing US hostages

Teheran, Feb 21.—Radical students holding 49 hostages at the occupied American Embassy here today dismissed as "foolish expectation" Washington's claim that the prisoners could be freed before the deposed Shah is returned to face trial in Iran.

Mr Sadeq Qotbadeh, Iran's Foreign Minister, was means while preparing a report for the ruling Revolutionary Council on preparations for a United Nations-sponsored investigation into the Shah's rule.

Although few details were close to the Council said.

In Teheran University, rival

factions fought with knives and fists today as 7,000 Muslim extremists tried to break up an election rally by 60,000 radical supporters of Masoud Rajavi, the former Mujahedin guerrilla leader. Witnesses said several people were injured.

During the night, Ayatollah

Shah what to do. America

is the cause. The Shah was a servant of America," he added.

Dr Waldheim said yesterday that no deadline had been set for the freedom of the hostages, now in their 10th day of captivity. Iranian leaders have said several times that holding of the inquiry will not lead automatically to their release.

Mr Qotbadeh said today that on the day of his arrival was not linked with his remarks separating the inquiry from the hostages' release.

Mr Qotbadeh consulted Members of the United Nations-sponsored commission on Iran today con-

ferred with representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and of the International Commission of Jurists (Alan McGregor writes from Geneva).

After meeting the commission, the more the anti-American nature of America will be known to the people of the world. If the Shah is not accredited, any expectation of America about the reconsideration of the situation of the hostages is a foolish expectation.

"We cannot be a neutral intermediary where there is already one in the form of the commission", he said.

the United Nations Secretary-General, hope that the commission to investigate Iran's grievances will lead to the release of the hostages. Dr Waldheim created the five-man commission yesterday and said it would come to Teheran at the weekend. It is composed of lawyers from France, Algeria, Syria, Sri Lanka and Venezuela.

Although few details were close to the Council said.

So far more than 30 people have died in California, the most populous American state, the damage is expected to exceed \$500m (£241m). Scores of homes have been destroyed by floods and mudslides, hundreds of houses have been badly damaged and thousands of residents have been forced to leave their homes after the six-day storm in eight days.

Governor Jerry Brown has asked President Carter to declare Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura and Riverside Counties disaster areas.

The Governor, who returned to California from New Hampshire where he was campaigning for the presidency, sent an emissary to Washington seeking aid and then immediately left the state to resume campaigning.

Mr Mike Curb, the Lieutenant-Governor who is acting Governor in Mr Brown's absence, followed up with a letter to President Carter making a formal request for help.

The storms have caused chaos on highways. Main roads have been closed and streets and houses have been washed away in a sea of flood water and mud.

Farmers in California reported that the rains have caused millions of dollars in damage to the vast agriculture industry. So far it is estimated that more than \$100m worth of crops have been lost, mostly strawberries, celery, lettuce, onions and lemons. This will mean that these products will become scarce and costlier in a state where fresh produce is cheap.

Last night and this morning a storm driven by 40 to 50 mph winds dropped another two inches of rain on California, bringing the season's total rainfall to 21.6in more than twice the normal 9.73in. More than 13in of rain have fallen in the past week.

Storm bill may exceed £241m in California

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Feb 21

California started today to count the damage from what officials are calling the worst

Two more monsoons-like storms are due to hit the west coast later today and on Saturday.

So far more than 30 people

have died in California, the most populous American state, the damage is expected to exceed \$500m (£241m). Scores of homes have been destroyed by floods and mudslides, hundreds of houses have been badly damaged and thousands of residents have been forced to leave their homes after the six-day storm in eight days.

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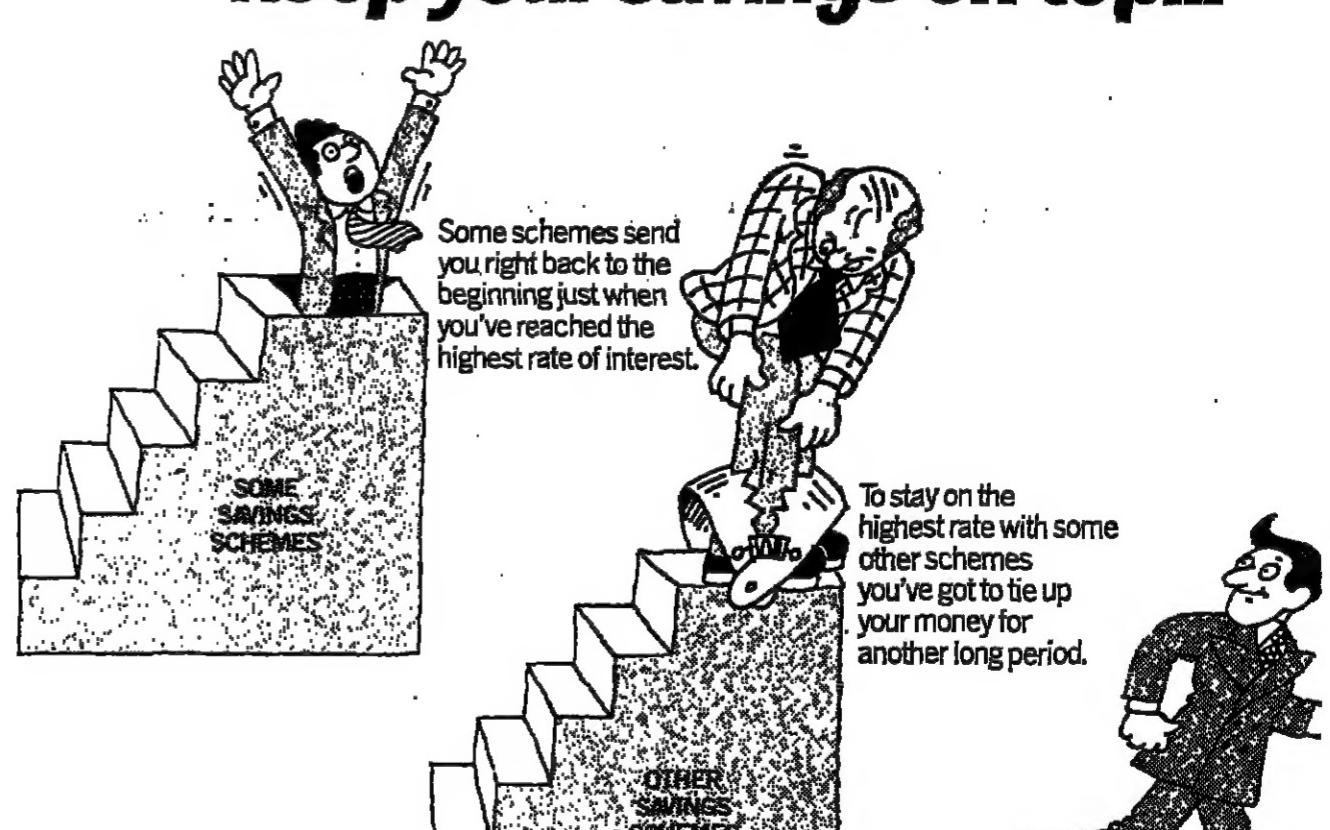
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The United States Administration and Dr Kurt Waldheim,

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OVERSEAS

Italian-American puts Mr Reagan on rack of ethnic jokes

From Patrick Brogan
Manchester, New Hampshire, Feb 21

The Republican primary here reached something of a slow crescendo last night as at the seven candidates gathered in a school auditorium for a "debate". The star of the evening was Mr Ronald Reagan. He was the last to debate, in Iowa, before the caucuses there last month and sounded beaten by Mr George Bush.

Questions were put to the candidates by three reporters and by carefully chosen people in the audience. The answers were, for the most part, predictable, though Mr John Connally, secretary of Mr Seized, Quotzoz, the Iranian Foreign Minister, of being a KGB agent and Mr Reagan recommended a blockade of Cuba.

One of the reporters reminded the candidates that the deficit in the budget which President Carter has just proposed consists almost entirely of increases in social security payments and welfare payments and asked what they would cut to balance the budget. "They all say they desire," And, please", she added, "be specific".

Six of the candidates replied that tax cuts would increase revenue by stimulating the economy (Mr Reagan promises to cut taxes by a third) but Mr John Anderson, a Congressman from Illinois who has consistently gone against the grain of conventional Republican wisdom, recommended a 50 cent tax on gallon of petrol. The revenue would be spent on halving social security contributions and the ensuing reduction in consumption would reduce inflation by reducing the balance of payments deficit.

The only other candidate who proposes such a drastic remedy to American dependence on foreign energy is Senator Edward Kennedy. He advocates petrol rationing. The fate of Mr Joe Clark, in Canada, defeated over a proposed 18 cent petrol tax, shows how politically dangerous such strong medicine can be.

The only moment of real drama last night came right at the end when one of the questioners from the floor, addressing Mr Reagan, scrapped the question he had submitted. He said that he was an Italian-American and asked whether Mr Reagan approved of making ethnic jokes.

The former Governor of California on his campaign bus the other day made a rather unfunny joke about a Pole and an Italian, and it was repeated.

He looked old and worried as he answered, claiming that the joke had been taken out of context, that the press was unfair. "I have not told the story the way it was reported by the reporter that reported it", he said. "I do not go around telling ethnic jokes. I was the victim. In the slang expression, I was stumped."

It was all rather painful.

Whether the debate itself will have much effect is another matter. It was very dull and though the candidates tried to make their policies clear, they had little time in which to do so.

The most recently published opinion poll, however, put Mr Bush ahead of Mr Reagan—with the others far behind—and give Carter a commanding lead over Senator Kennedy among the Democrats.

The local newspaper, *The Manchester Union-Leader*, says the Democrats have a choice between "stupid, the coward,

Election scene, page 4

Chinese farmers pull down Great Wall

PEKING, Feb 21.—More than 30 miles of the Great Wall of China, has been pulled down by farmers and in spite of protests the destruction continues, *People's Daily* reported today.

A letter in the newspaper said that the Great Wall was only one of several threatened monuments. The letter proposed that a law to punish those who damaged ancient monuments should be passed.

It noted that in December, 1977, the Communist Party's Central Committee issued instructions in response to letters from people, that the Great Wall must not be destroyed.

The first sections of the Great Wall were built in the fifth century BC to block invasions from the north.

Many important ancient monuments are being used as factories and schools and cannot be opened for tourism", today's letter stated. The damage to our ancient buildings is serious.—U.P.L.

the fluke and the dark horse".

The poll is not significant. It was taken over a fortnight earlier this month by a local colleague.

The *Union-Leader's* significance is much debated. It is reactionary and cruel in its attacks on politicians who Mr Loeb, its publisher, dislikes. That is to say, everybody except Mr Reagan.

The headline "Jerry the fat", opened President Ford four years ago, and remember the destruction of Senator Edward Muskie in 1972. Mr Loeb published a typically abusive article about the senator's wife, and Mr Muskie wept in public in the street in front of the paper's office, out of rage and frustration.

Mr Loeb's powers may be waning. Last autumn, he attacked Mr Phillip Crane, a right-wing Republican Congressman whose political philosophy is indistinguishable from that of Mr Reagan. The story described "the man who had bedded a thousand women" and said that the Congressman was an incorrigible and indefatigable philanderer.

So far as anyone can tell, the allegation is totally baseless and after a few days of horrific berating (Mr Crane was really not used to sort of thing) he decided to ignore Mr Loeb. That gentleman, whose support for Mr Reagan has been touchingly constant over the years, is now attacking Mr Bush with his usual abandon, and Mr Bush, too, has decided to ignore him.

Since his Iowa defeat Mr Loeb has been campaigning assiduously fearing that another defeat by Mr Bush might destroy his chances. Has every body else and although Mr Bush remains cheerful and confident, his staff shows signs of extreme nervousness.

Their man is ahead, which is a dangerous position to be in. If he comes in second next Tuesday it will be a serious defeat. A month ago, before the Iowa caucuses, the idea of finishing a respectable second to Mr Reagan would have delighted them. But whoever is in the lead must stay there or risk instant oblivion.

Journalists should state their profession as "journalist" in passports: editors should explicitly instruct journalists to avoid danger and journalists should be free of worry about their jobs or reputation if they did not get a story because they were cautious.

Journalists should also report fast and fully about what happened to colleagues in areas of conflict. "If they are missing, if they are hurt or detained, fast reporting can help and the past has shown that", Mr Long said.—Reuter.

Unesco ideologists worry Reuter head

CANBERRA, Feb 21.—Mr Gerald Long, the managing director of Reuters, expressed concern today about recommendations likely to be made by Unesco's commission on communication problems.

Mr Long said journalists members of the commission had managed to temper the effects of ideologists in drawing up the last draft of the report which is due to be released this week. "But there are elements present in the last draft which I would regard as dangerous", he added.

"One of them is a suggestion that there should be set up within Unesco an international centre for the study and planning of information and communication." Ideologists would probably use the centre as a permanent commission to promote ideas rejected by journalists members, he said.

Mr Long made these points in a speech to the National Press Club in Canberra during a two week visit to Australia.

He agreed with the draft report's rejection of special privileges to protect journalists because this could lead to a licensing system with someone deciding who was a journalist and who was not.

However, Mr Long rejected suggestions by Mr Sean MacBride, the chairman and Irish jurist, that journalists deprived of cards recognizing their professional status should have the right of appeal to a professional body within Unesco's authority.

Mr Long also disagreed with Mr MacBride's suggestion that protection for journalists could be achieved simply by an amendment to the Geneva convention, saying this idea ignores the reality of what happens, not frequently, but far too often on a dusty road in an African country, at a road block in Vietnam or in the streets of a city under military law.

Journalists were the only people who could help journalists in these matters, Mr Long said.

Journalists should state their profession as "journalist" in passports: editors should explicitly instruct journalists to avoid danger and journalists should be free of worry about their jobs or reputation if they did not get a story because they were cautious.

Journalists should also report fast and fully about what happened to colleagues in areas of conflict. "If they are missing, if they are hurt or detained, fast reporting can help and the past has shown that", Mr Long said.—Reuter.

Meanwhile, the Democrats are slugging away at one another in what has turned into a tough and unifying battle. In the *Union Leader's* terminology, "the coward" is Senator Kennedy, "the fluke" is Mr Lyndon Brown of California and "the dark horse" is Mr Lyndon LaRouche. The last named is leader of the United States Labor Party, a former Stalinist.

Mr Kennedy is campaigning hard, going from door to door and coffee party to coffee party. New Hampshire is a small state and it is possible for the senator to meet a high proportion of the voters and to remind them personally of the inflation rate, the cost of petrol, and interest rates that have just increased to 15 per cent.

Mr Kennedy did far better in the Maine caucuses on February 10 than many experts predicted, coming within four percentage points of the vote won by the President. He won the equivalent of nine delegates to Mr Carter's 11.

He did particularly well in the cities and is concentrating his efforts here in the cities of southern New Hampshire. These places are near to Massachusetts and he may do well.

One of the latest casualties was a policeman who was shot dead on his way home late last night in the western port of Izmir, in spite of the imposition of martial law.

At the signing by Mr Arturo Ruffini, the Italian Foreign Minister and President of the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers, and Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the EEC External Affairs Commissioner. The Ascan countries will be represented by their foreign ministers.

As a prelude to the meeting,

Ascan and the EEC are to sign a wide-ranging economic cooperation agreement which would help Ascan in trade, investment, industrial development and transfer of technology.

The agreement, which has been negotiated over the past

six years and was concluded in Brussels last December, will give the Ascan nations most favoured nation status. Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia already receive such treatment under the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT). But the new agreement is to extend the same privilege to Thailand and the Philippines, which are not GATT signatories. The five countries are the component members of ASEAN.

The meeting is a continuation of similar meeting in Brussels last year aimed at securing closer political and economic ties and the sources say it was an indication of the need for more contact between the two groups.

The EEC will be represented at the signing by Mr Arturo Ruffini, the Italian Foreign Minister and President of the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers, and Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the EEC External Affairs Commissioner. The Ascan countries will be represented by their foreign ministers.

Refugees, today dispersed fears caused by unofficial reports suggesting that Kampuchean would be repatriated in the next few months to plant rice.

He told a press conference at the end of a six-day visit to Thailand that the commission would never be a party to forced repatriation of refugees.

Mr Hartling said he had no fears that the Thai authorities would forcibly repatriate refugees since he had been given firm assurances by the Prime Minister and other ministers that Thailand's open door policy would be maintained.

"I trust the Thai Government when they say they will not force back refugees", he said.

Children would not be taken to other countries until it was absolutely certain that they were orphans, Mr Hartling said.

Mr Hartling added that senior officials from the commission recently visited Hanoi and Phnom Penh but these were routine visits only and did not indicate repatriation plans.

A survey of the refugees' feelings about repatriation had been done, he said, but he thought few would wish to return with conditions as they were in Kampuchea. More now in holding centres in Thailand had little hope of being resettled elsewhere unless third

countries changed their conditions for acceptance.

Those eligible were mainly spouses, parents or children of people already living in the third countries.

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Tues. 7.30 & 7.30, Thurs. 7.30 & 7.30: "The Merry Widow", 8.30pm. "Ninetta". Mon. & Thurs. 7.30, "Don Giovanni", 10pm. Tues. & Thurs. 7.30, Concerto, 7pm. Wed. 7.30, "Cavalleria Rusticana" (Sous-Coupe, available for Thurs. 7.30).

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SPORT

Rugby Union

Lane on road to his fourth cap for Wales in Cardiff

By Peter West

Rugby Correspondent

For the next Welsh international against Scotland tomorrow evening their selectors have chosen the Cardiff flanker, Stuart Lane, as replacement for Paul Ringer, who was ruled out from rugby for eight weeks after breaking his leg in a march against England last weekend.

There is no other change in the team which lost that sour and abrasive touch when Derek Quinell of Llanelli has now been added to the list of travelling reserves.

Lane, 32, will be winning his fourth cap. He acquired two of them on an unhappy Welsh tour of Australia in the summer of 1978, when first he appeared as a replacement for Jeff Squire in Brisbane and then another, in his own right, so to speak, in the second international in Sydney. On that second occasion Squire, Quinell and Terry Cohen were all injured, and Wales played J. P. R. Williams on the flank. Lane had his third cap as replacement when coming on for Williams during the match when Wales beat Ireland 24-21 in Cardiff just over a year ago.

There was no hint from the Welsh selectors that they contemplated leaving out any of the players, apart of course, from Ringer, whose ferocity at Twickenham was so clearly exceeded limits. No doubt they say that the referee, aided by his touch judges, was the one and only arbiter on foul or too violent play. But they surely will be

insisting that in the game against Scotland, which traditionally has always been fiercely contested, he should concentrate on playing the rugby of which they are capable.

It will not have been long since that, though a remarkable almost solely for his own reasons, that he does so there and in spite of the handicap of only playing with seven forwards others might have won a victory from the opponents built for them by the superlative kicking of Gareth Davies.

Scotland last won in Cardiff in 1962, which makes their recent record on that ground a touch worse than England's. In the eight games of the series played since, Wales have scored 23 tries while England have 19, but the sevens when, apart from narrow success (6-0) in 1974, Wales enjoyed four sweeping victories.

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Gloucester bring back their England replacement prop, Sargent, for the John Player Cup second round match against Coventry on Saturday. But there is no room for last year's England scrum half, Kingston, who is kept out by Baker. Sargent's recall means that Gloucester will now have their complete English party again, having joined Sills and the internationals, Blakeway.

Bristol go into their second round tie with Gosforth without their lock, Pompfrey. He has chips, but a bad knee, and will be out of the game for at least three weeks. Pompfrey said: "A specialist has found a chip of bone floating around in the knee, but I'm not worried about it.

Hosts for Paris: Alan Hodge of Scotland will referee the game between France and Ireland in the final of the Five Nations on Saturday. Hodge also refereed the Wales v France game in Cardiff on January 19, his tenth international since 1973.

Macaulay adds a flourish to Westminster's win

By Gordon Allan

Westminster 15

St Bartholomew's 12
St Mary's and Westminster respectively winners and runners-up in last year's Hospitals Cup competition, are in the final of the Westminster here. St Bartholomew's by a goal, two penalty goals and a try to a goal and two penalty goals at Richmond yesterday after being six points up at the end of the first half and six down at the start.

Westminster ended their victory first and foremost to Macaulay, the Harlequins stand-off half. He kicked two penalties, scored and converted a try, and made the break for a try by the left wing. Such was his influence that it was enough. He repeatedly drove St Bartholomew's back with his long kicks to touch.

Westminster needed those kicks. St Bartholomew's forwards were heavier and stronger, with Dunn, an English schoolboy, in particular making his mark and they were able to dictate terms in the right. Westminster rolled more on mobility and quick thinking, both of which qualities were exemplified by Macaulay and his scrum-half, Rawle, another Harlequin.

The story of the final half is soon told. Macaulay kicked two penalties and Westminster had to

replace one of their locks, Hanson, who was carried off and taken to hospital with a bruised spine. The rugby so far was of indifferent quality.

Everything changed as soon as the second half began. St Bartholomew's scored a try and went in the opening 10 minutes. Both sides, having already missed three penalties, kicked two to level the score. Then Fitzpatrick scored a try, which Crisp started with a hand-off and Bridges, Beynon and Baldwin converted.

But Macaulay had the last word—the last two words in fact. From a line-out in St Bartholomew's 22 he chipped over the goal-line and scored. The ball fell to Macaulay's nose to score the try that he converted. Finally, from a scrumage just inside his own half, he split St Bartholomew's defense with a brilliant dummy and ran as fast as the 22, where he gave Sharples the scoring pass.

Nowport, the 1977 cup winners, hope to begin a successful season by hosting Newcastle's Rodney Parade. Their captain, Gareth Evans switches to the wing and the former Newbridge player, Robinson, resumes at centre. Newbridge, who have already completed a double over Newport this season, field a side including two Wales B props, Dowling and McCredie.

Macaulay, the only second class club to reach the quarter-final round of the Welsh Cup three seasons running, entertain the favourites, Swans, without their flanker, Welsh, who has shoulder and knee injuries. Swans, who narrowly defeated Bath in the semi-final stage of the competition two years ago when they went on to win the cup, take no chances.

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How much longer can President Carter stay in the White House rose garden

He could come out once the hostages are freed and election issues get closer to home

The United States is suffering from war hysteria. I was repeatedly told during three weeks traveling in different parts of the country. With one undistinguished exception, however, none of my informants could possibly be described as a victim of the ailment. It was always other people elsewhere who were supposed to be in this condition, and after a while I concluded that something very different was occurring.

A serious debate on American foreign policy is taking place that is far removed from the mood in the Vietnam war days. Then there was a fierce and emotional conflict between the hawks and the doves. Now

there is a sober determination of what course the United States ought to pursue in international affairs. That was evident in many private conversations and in much that has appeared in the press.

The combined effect of Iran and Afghanistan has been to shake Americans out of the passivity that characterized their approach to international affairs after Vietnam. There is a new determination, but it should not be mistaken for a new jingoism or even a new

This has important implications for the presidential election. The summed effect of the crises was to rally opinion behind the President, and the trend has been strengthened by the general belief that he has handled them well. So long as the national instinct is to close ranks behind him, Mr Carter cannot be beaten.

But for how long can foreign affairs drive other issues off the political agenda when the public mood is not frenetic? Mr Carter will do what he can to keep them at the top for as long as possible. His handling of the Iranian and Afghanistan crises has shown astute political calculation as well as statesmanship. By conducting his re-election campaign from the



John Anderson, President Carter and George Bush: from foreign to domestic policy.

White House rose garden he has managed to keep more presidential than ever before and to emphasize the special advantages of the incident. Nor has he allowed his involvement with international questions to preclude intense political activity on the telephone.

The Carter campaign is well organized and knows its strengths. When I asked one Carter organizer how long the rose garden campaign would continue he replied, "for as long as possible".

Yet there are signs that economic questions are once again forcing their way up the public's list of political priorities. Once the hostages are released, foreign policy is likely to become no more than one among the principal issues—though far more important than it was a few months ago. This will leave Mr Carter with a very

good chance of reelection, but not invulnerability. Whenever I went I found widespread support for him, but little positive enthusiasm.

I do not believe that he can be defeated on foreign policy. But he might be beaten by someone who can neutralize his advantage on foreign policy and defeat him on economic issues, where there is much dissatisfaction over inflation.

This is a task that should be easier for a Republican than a Democratic challenger, simply because of the timescale. There will be eight Democratic primaries in the next month, including one in the important state of Illinois. There will therefore not be time for a Democrat to play a waiting game.

Senator Edward Kennedy has consequently been induced to attack the President's interna-

tional policy directly, alleging that he brought the trouble on himself by permitting the Shah to have medical treatment abroad. But the political weakness of that approach is that, even if Mr Kennedy's analysis is correct, it can so easily be misinterpreted as justifying the Iranian seizure of the hostages.

The Republicans, however, do not have to engage Mr Carter, or whoever may be the Democratic nominee, in open combat for some months. They have time to allow the debate on international policy to cool a bit, though it will still be necessary for the Republican candidate to convince the voters that he could handle a foreign crisis as capably as Mr Carter.

This should be easiest for Mr Bush among those Republican hopefuls who stand a serious chance of winning the nomination. Senator Baker has the advantage of organization. Senator Baker's inability to assemble an effective cam-

paign has not only crippled his effort to get the nomination but has raised a serious question mark over his capacity to govern capably if he were President. To be a successful President it is necessary to conduct an impressive collective operation from the White House, not just to be personally competent in dealing with problems and people.

But if Mr Bush looks a good prospect for the Republican nomination, does he have the flair to defeat a sitting President? He is not so much at ease with economic matters as with foreign policy, and his personality is reassuring rather than exciting.

The one candidate to have aroused genuine excitement is Congressman John Anderson of Illinois. On foreign affairs, energy and economics he is the one candidate who has appeared to be speaking his mind, just playing politics. He is far too liberal to have any chance of the nomination, but that is just why he is required to attract the independents and Democrats whom any Republican candidate must win over to stand a chance of victory.

He would be the best vice-presidential candidate, balancing Mr Bush geographically and ideologically—and being himself of presidential calibre. The chances may not be high. He has said that he does not want the job; the party regulars would not want him; and he has made some cutting remarks about Mr Bush. Only if Mr Bush wins the nomination with sufficient ease not to have to do any deals with the right wing would there be any chance of such a choice.

He would have to assert himself to make it, which in turn would make him look more decisive as a leader. If there is a serious prospect of defeating Mr Carter, a Bush-Anderson ticket would stand the best chance of doing it.

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Geoffrey Smith

The giants who linger on

November 3, but was kept alive in a vegetable state so the Government could sign a pact ceding the Spanish Sahara to Dr Marcello Caetano. Dr Salazar would not give up. Paralyzed and half blind, he went home in February 1969, and in April, on his 80th birthday, was even able to broadcast his thanks to the Portuguese for their affection and interest in his health.

According to some reports, he still believed he was in charge. Only in July 1970, when he was 81, did he develop the kidney infection from which he soon died.

The demise of the other Iberian dictator, Dr Salazar of Portugal, was in some ways even more pathetic. In August 1968, at the age of 79 and when he had been in power 36 years, a deck chair collapsed under him and the right side of his head hit the ground. The resulting blood clot was operated on, but soon afterwards he suffered a serious stroke.

Sir Winston had resigned as prime minister on April 5, 1955, after being progressively ill for several years. He appeared to be dying, and on September 26 he was succeeded as prime minister by Dr Marcello Caetano. But Dr Salazar would not give up. Paralyzed and half blind, he went home in February 1969, and in April, on his 80th birthday, was even able to broadcast his thanks to the Portuguese for their affection and interest in his health.

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Tragically prolonged though the passing of Sir Winston Churchill may have been; that was perhaps an instance of time helping the nation to adjust to the impending loss of a great hero.

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The former president of Princeton did not have a

reputation for scruples, but he remained a man of great character throughout his life.

President Roosevelt's declining life also involved the tragedy of his wife, Eleanor, who died in 1962. Their marriage had been a source of happiness for both of them, though it was not without its difficulties.

On January 10 (according to Lord Moran), he had another stroke, and Moran could not feel any pulse. For the next 14 days, Moran wrote, Sir Winston was not seen to move. The world waited, and only on January 24, 1965, did he finally yield up his great spirit.

Dr Adenauer, founding father of West Germany, who died in 1967 aged 91, was a great deal luckier. Only two months before he died, he was fit enough to tell an American interviewer he thought the British were adhering to an easy way of life acquired in colonial days. Eventually the man who had so reluctantly stood down as chancellor four years earlier succumbed fairly rapidly to complications resulting from bronchitis and influenza.

President Pompidou, the French president, seems to be a comparable case—began to lose his grip on detail and was thought to be suffering from some serious disease a good year before he died in office on April 2, 1974. His appearance was altered by the steroids treatment he received, and he became progressively more easily tired and irritable. In his last days he suffered greatly with pain in a courage which moved even his political opponents.

Two of America's greatest Presidents, Woodrow Wilson and F. D. Roosevelt, were separated from the world by serious illness while in office, the case of Woodrow Wilson being particularly sad.

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Roosevelt (centre) with Churchill and Stalin at Yalta in 1945: a dying man helping to recast the map of Europe.

SALISBURY DIARY

charter companies cannot turn their aircraft round fast enough. British Airways jumbo jets and RAF VC-10's unload officials, observers, interested foreigners, diplomats, businessmen and journalists by the hundred.

There is an easy way to recognize a reporter, even if he is not wearing the little yellow press pass issued for the election. He is the man, looking like a car-chief, trying a key in the doors of several identical rented small Datsuns before he finds the right one.

There are about 500 press and broadcasting people here, and the temporary colonial administration, the Rhodesians and the nine contending political parties are straining every sine qua non to keep the airfield a phenomenon of press conferences, briefings and facilities.

Last week the following items were all on offer at 5.30 pm on the same day: Mr Ian Smith's last election address, a press conference given by Mr Robert Mugabe, Leader of the Zanu (PF) Party, another by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the leader of UDI, and the daily briefing of Ian Gough, the spokesman for the Governor, Lord Soames.

Larry himself was modest enough not to recall making this memorable wisecrack when I taxed him with it elsewhere years later, but I am sure he would not say it now. At that time Rhodesia was busy parting company with the rest of the world.

Today we are witnessing its return to the fold, and the capital of Zimbabwe-in-waiting is almost reeling with shock.

The hotels are bursting at the seams. Car-hire firms cannot cope with demand. Air

repaying him in kind. Inspired in several ways, the copy flowed freely and eventually reached London in legible condition. A generous act of simple humanity is at the centre of the world's political stage and transformed it out of all recognition.

Bedroom farce

Meikles hotel used to be one of the finest relics of British imperialism, not so famous perhaps as Shepheard's in Cairo or the Raffles in Singapore, but still one of the few great hotels. As

I found when I stayed there for a few days, after my arrival, the standards of service remain generally fabulous with the cuisine not far behind. The by European standards low wages paid to the large staff obviously help, but the real secret is excellent organization.

But as I found when I was actually ordered out of the place without warning because of heavy overbooking, the management has begun to exhibit signs of strain.

A vast new block trebling the accommodation is all but complete but will not be opened until Easter. This seems oddly odd to the management who have already offered to reimburse him. When I reached the end of page two, he did it again, once more refusing payment. All I gleaned from him was that he had just arrived from Britain. My honour now rests on finding him again and

ordered out of his room—for the same reason on the same day



جامعة الدول

THE DANGEROUS LAST STAGES

The Ministry of Defence is right to make plans for the withdrawal of the British and Commonwealth monitoring force upon the completion of the election process. Any such plan must contain contingency provisions against unfavourable events which might imperil any units of that body between now and the completion of the election. We are, however, now close to the last stages of the operation to which all parties agreed at Lancaster House, and it is advisable to take a careful look at the timetable and its relationship to the role of the monitors.

It sounds as though the Ministry of Defence considers that this role is completed when the last vote has been deposited in the ballot boxes, and these are on their way to be counted under conditions in which nobody can suggest tampering took place—the rub, in the official view, of a free and fair election. But it would seem that the role of the monitoring force is to monitor the cease-fire, and this cannot come to an end until the result has been declared and the new constitutional government is installed, at which point the British flag is lowered and monitoring is irrelevant.

Polling ends on February 29 and the results are expected three days later, a point at which the cease-fire, strictly speaking, is still in operation. The moment of great danger will in fact be when the election results are declared, for it is then that those who are disappointed may declare that the election has been manifestly shown not to have been free or fair, and to reject the result—and the ensuing process of government-making by Lord Soames. It is then that the guerrillas, or the forces of any party, might take to the

bush, possibly with Commonwealth hostilities, or possibly after attacking the isolated Commonwealth contingents in their camps.

The first imperative is that the party leaders should publicly accept in advance the results of the elections, however unwelcome and however indicative of the efficacy of the brutal intimidation which is now endemic. This should keep their forces peaceful at declaration of the poll, though there can be no certainty of this. It should, nonetheless, reduce the risk to the monitors.

The sooner Lord

Soames can get this assurance the better, and if he does not get it, then the greater the relevance of the contingency plans to rescue monitoring units in vulnerable positions.

The presence of the monitors during the period subsequent to the poll itself is important, quite apart from the fact that it seems to be a condition to which Britain has subscribed. For the monitors will exert a calming influence at a tense moment; they will strengthen the presumption that a transition is taking place from a truce to a full-blown peace settlement.

The uncertainties of the situation grow after the results are declared, even if the leaders have been induced to accept them in advance. If Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF party gets 51 of the 100 assembly seats, he would have to be asked to form a government. Indeed he may well have to be asked to try to form one if he gets a majority of the 80 black seats. The dangers increase if, even though his party is the largest black party in the assembly, the Governor's soundings show that all the other parties want Mr Nkomo as prime minister, and are prepared to keep him in office, and to

legateate Mr Mugabe to opposition. Adherence to parliamentary rules would require Lord Soames to accept that outcome, even if it risked repudiation by Mr Mugabe's men and a resumption of hostilities. However, he would no doubt urge upon all the parties the advisability of trying to form a "national" government to obviate such a risk.

During cabinet-making, the monitors can begin to withdraw. They are not in Rhodesia to become involved in any renewed civil war. Nor has Britain any responsibility to draw in, on a plea of supporting the majority coalition in the assembly. If the conditions for the abrogation of Britain's nominal and temporary sovereignty are broken it should be open to Britain to abrogate that responsibility unilaterally and to withdraw, leaving the country to settle its affairs by force of arms if that decision is made despite the elections. The monitors are neutrals now, and whatever government emerges in Salisbury, must remain so. For Britain to abandon the position of referee, and participate in the commencement of what may well be a prolonged period of tribal or other struggles for power would be wrong, damaging to us, but also dangerous for Rhodesia.

The British and Commonwealth troops are at risk. They know it, and they honourably volunteered to take those risks. But the risks they run now and in future have been there from the start: the cease-fire could have broken down at any time. With good management it will not break and the poll, however flawed, will take place. It will be Lord Soames' final task to preside over the last stage of the election process in Salisbury as to produce the most stable result he can.

TELEVISION AND THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS

It is the Government's hope and intention that Britain should not be represented in the Moscow Olympic Games this summer. That is an entirely justifiable response to the Soviet action in Afghanistan. But there are certain measures which it would not be justifiable for the Government to take in support of that response. Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, has said that the Government is considering whether to give official advice to the BBC and ITV on whether to cover the games, and the BBC has indicated that if such advice were offered it would be considered very carefully.

As host nation the Soviet Union will presumably control the filming of the games. That is the customary practice which normally works well enough. But the Government is understandably worried that the Soviet authorities will exercise their prerogative in such a way as to secure a bogus diplomatic triumph. "The prospect of a march-past of athletes giving an 'eyes-right' to President Brezhnev would", Mr Hurd told the House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, "be an intolerable signal sent across

the world." That is a powerful argument against the athletes going to Moscow. Their presence would be used for propaganda purposes to give the impression that international opinion was not offended by the invasion of Afghanistan. But what ought the broadcasting authorities, and newspapers for that matter, to do if the games do proceed as scheduled?

The first principle is that it should be for the broadcasters and the newspapers themselves to take this decision. In a free society it is not for governments to tell them what they may or may not report in order to suit a political purpose, no matter how admirable that purpose may be. The Government should leave the decision to the broadcasters because one of the essential distinctions between a free country and the Soviet Union is that where there is freedom a government's wish can be ignored even when it is right.

What then should the broadcasters do? They should base their decision on accepted broadcasting values, which means that they should judge according to the importance of the occasion and the interest in it. If the Olympics are widely boycotted, then they will be of little sporting value and the interest in them will be minimal. If British

control dispositions of the home. These powers can be protected by registration which would effectively prevent a surreptitious sale.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN EDELL,
Law Commissioner,
Conquest House,
37-38 John Street, WC1.
February 20.

Cause for consideration

From Lord Walston

Sir, There is all the difference in the world between Marxism and Russian Imperialism. Anyone who doubts this should look at Yugoslavia.

Although a Marxist state is today a leader of the non-aligned countries, and a bulwark against Russian expansion in Europe.

That this is so is in large measure due to the wisdom and courage of Churchill and those who led our mission to Tito during the war.

In spite of his being a Marxist and a guerrilla leader, we supported his cause.

We do not accept this. In most cases the only "escape provision" available will be that which permits husbands and wives to agree that their home shall not be jointly owned. This means that where the parties give no thought to co-ownership, or one of them is unwilling to exclude it, they will jointly own the property.

We therefore believe that the Bill will produce justice in a large number of cases which it would not otherwise be achieved. We also believe that one of the most important functions of the Bill will be to establish that co-ownership is the "norm" and to influence more spouses to provide for it expressly.

Mr Davies goes on to say that where a spouse is a co-owner but is not on the legal side, real hardship could be caused by a surreptitious sale by the other party, and adds that the position of such a spouse will be worse under our proposals than under the present law. We cannot agree with the latter point.

It is true that we propose the removal of what he rightly calls "the rather uncertain provision of the Law of Property Act, 1925, and the constructive notice doctrine of The Land Registration Act, 1925".

But in its place we propose new powers for husbands and wives to

support these noble people through their imprisonment, and also to obtain their release. By persecuting them the Soviet regime is creating martyrs, aggravating the serious social ills which they have drawn attention to with such courage and moderation.

Yours faithfully,
MARK BONHAM CARTER,
DAN JACOBSON,
MICHAEL SCAMMELL,
STUART HAMPSHIRE,
DAVID ASTOR,
ROLAND PENROSE,
LOIS STEFF,
JIM ROSE,
EDWARD CRANKSHAW,
c/o Writers and Scholars
Organization,
21 Russell Street, WC2.

February 14.

Rugby violence

From Mr P. H. Leacock

Sir, After seeing the all too frequent acts of hooliganism that marred the England and Wales game on Saturday, many parents and school teachers must be questioning whether children should be encouraged to take up the game of rugby.

The only redeeming feature of the march was the brave refereeing of Mr Burnett.

Yet some authorities at all levels and some at least of the journalists involved in the game will, I fear, continue to glorify over the appalling aspects of the modern game that are all too plain to see.

Unfortunately the game itself may suffer serious injury which no amount of "scratches" will be capable of healing.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP H. LEACOCK,
163 Compton Lane,
Horsham,
Sussex.
February 14.

February 14.

Soviet dissidents

From Mr Mark Bonham Carter and others

Sir, We write to express our deep disquiet at the Soviet authorities' current campaign to suppress all forms of dissent. The human rights movement, in particular, is now coming under such pressure that remarkable sanitised publications like *The Chronicle of Current Events* (published in English by Amnesty International) might temporarily be forced to close down.

'Objective test' in union legislation

From Mr John Melville Williams, QC

Sir, Because of my involvement in the recent cases of *Express Newspapers v MacShane* and *Dupertuis v Sirs*, I have so far refrained from joining your correspondence on trade unions and the law but the observations on the House of Lords judgments in your first letter yesterday (February 20) cannot be unanswered.

You refer to Mr Prior's proposals correcting parts of the House of Lords judgments which "made new law" and restoring an "objective test". You state that the House of Lords was "under no obligation to adopt the purely subjective test" and left the law unclear.

On the question of so-called political disputes and finally that "The House of Lords was wrong to set aside the general trend of past judicial interpretation—including their own".

During cabinet-making, the monitors can begin to withdraw. They are not in Rhodesia to become involved in any renewed civil war. Nor has Britain any responsibility to draw in, on a plea of supporting the majority coalition in the assembly. If the conditions for the abrogation of Britain's nominal and temporary sovereignty are broken it should be open to Britain to abrogate that responsibility unilaterally and to withdraw, leaving the country to settle its affairs by force of arms if that decision is made despite the elections. The monitors are neutrals now, and whatever government emerges in Salisbury, must remain so. For Britain to abandon the position of referee, and participate in the commencement of what may well be a prolonged period of tribal or other struggles for power would be wrong, damaging to us, but also dangerous for Rhodesia.

The House of Lords' obligation was to construe the phrase "an act done by a person in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute". This they did in accordance with its natural or ordinary meaning: the question, simply put, is, why was the act done, not did it or could it further the trade dispute?

The only previous occasion that this had been specifically considered by the House was in *Conway v Wade* in 1909 (1909 AC 506) and the recent cases which have received far too little attention from yourselves and other commentators. First in *MacShane* Lord Scarman observed that "it would be a strange and embarrassing task for a Judge to be called upon to review the tactics of a party to a trade dispute and to determine whether in the view of the Court the tactic employed was likely to further or advance that party's side of the dispute" and that the difficulties which had beset the Court of Appeal were "a persuasive argument for keeping this act of judgment in the industrial arena and out of the judicial forum".

Secondly, Lord Diplock in the steel case remarked on the danger to public confidence in the political impartiality of the judiciary if Judges under the guise of interpretation provide their preferred amendments to statutes to avoid a consequence they regard as contrary to the public interest.

A few examples will show this: thus Lord Atkinson said at page 517 "the statute is designed to protect acts in the nature of aid assistance help and encouragement rendered to the disputants" and Lord Shaw of Dunfermline at page 522 said "the act must be done in the course of it [the dispute] and for the purpose of promoting the interests of either party or both parties to it".

In particular the Lord Chancellor Lord Labouchere made it clear that the 1906 Act could apply to "secondary" action (page 511) and in the following passage at page 512 he plainly contemplated industrial action spreading far beyond those immediately involved:

"I agree . . . that the section cannot fairly be confined to an act done by a party to the dispute. A dispute may have arisen, for example, in a single colliery, of which the subject is so important to the whole industry that either employers or workmen may think a general lock-out or a general

strike is necessary to gain their point. Few are parties to it, but all are interested in the dispute."

That the "new law" has not been introduced by the House of Lords is also confirmed by Professor Goodwin's famous article published in 1972 on the Legality of the General Strike. The objection which you suggest should be "reserved" was not one test but a number of tests proposed by the Court of Appeal in a succession of cases between *Beaverbrook v Keys* in 1977 and *Associated Newspapers v Wade* in 1979.

The expression "political strike" has itself been criticised by the Court of Appeal as one of the uses of which obscures rather than illuminates and the restoration of such slogans cannot help in the proper reconciliation of the genuine interests of different sections of the community.

While it is legitimate for *The Times* to advocate changes in the laws, it is not legitimate to do so in a manner which is likely to distract the House of Lords. The interests of the community in this field are better served by dispassionate analysis, objectivity and serious argument.

There are two other matters considered by the House of Lords in the recent cases which have received far too little attention from yourselves and other commentators.

Fir in *MacShane* Lord Scarman observed that "it would be a strange and embarrassing task for a Judge to be called upon to review the tactics of a party to a trade dispute and to determine whether in the view of the Court the tactic employed was likely to further or advance that party's side of the dispute" and that the difficulties which had beset the Court of Appeal were "a persuasive argument for keeping this act of judgment in the judicial forum".

Secondly, Lord Diplock in the steel case remarked on the danger to public confidence in the political impartiality of the judiciary if Judges under the guise of interpretation provide their preferred amendments to statutes to avoid a consequence they regard as contrary to the public interest.

That danger is all the more real if the Courts become as they are bound to do by Mr Prior's proposal.

In *MacShane* Lord Scarman's phrase, "a sort of a backseat driver in trade disputes".

Yours faithfully,

JOHN MELVILLE WILLIAMS,
15 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

February 21.

Paying to go to school

From Mr James F. Pawsey, MP for Rugby (Conservative) and Mr Roger Moate, MP for Faversham (Conservative)

Sir, On February 13, a large number of Conservative MPs voted against the Government, or abstained, on the question of school transport charges. The vote had to take place on an amendment which went further than many other members wanted.

For that and other reasons, it is reasonable to conclude that many more Conservative members and ministers, whilst not voting or abstaining in the division lobby, share the same concern over the manner in which education authorities may utilise this power.

That being so, we hope that the Government will think again about these proposals before the Education Bill reaches the House of Lords. Failing that we hope that their lordships, when deciding this issue, will give full recognition to the immense amount of concern that is only partly revealed by the voting figures.

Whilst there are differences of view about whether low and limited charges are acceptable or whether existing free provision should continue, there is no doubt that high transport charges, as contemplated by some education authorities, will cause hardship and could endanger the pattern of education that has developed since the 1944 Education Act.

Serious damage could be inflicted upon many denominational schools with large catchment areas and

upon rural areas. Freedom of choice which, in other respects, the Bill seeks to enhance would, in practice, for many families, be reduced.

There is still time to put this right.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES F. PAWSEY,
ROGER MOATE.

House of Commons.

From the Sheriff of Oxford

Sir, There is widespread relief in many parts of the county and particularly in the city of Oxford, at the fact that the Government has introduced a clause in the new Education Bill giving objectors to nursery school closures the right of appeal to the Secretary of State for Education and Science.

As a result Oxfordshire County Council will be abandoning its plans to close all its nursery schools and nursery classes. Those of us who opposed the closures are very glad to think that public pressure has resulted in the safeguarding of nursery schools throughout the country. We regard the Government decision as a judgment of Solomon.

This does not mean that there is no room for new forms of nursery provision in the future; but these, I hope, will be grafted on to the traditional provision in a spirit of parity instead of supplanting it in an atmosphere of outrage.

Yours faithfully,

JANET TODD,
Town Hall,
Oxford,
February 14.

Help for council tenants

From Mr Edward Ward

Sir, My morning post at the Chief Officer of a municipal Housing Department testifies to Neil McIntosh's belief that many Council tenants are struggling to make ends meet (Letters, February 14) but not because of high rents.

Tenants on low incomes need not suffer any hardship to pay their rent whether they occupy a Council or private dwelling. Generous rent rebates and allowances and rate rebates are mandatory. All local housing authorities that is, Councils other than County and Parish Councils have to administer the schemes.

As an example, a man, woman and two children with a weekly income of £49.95 per week (£2,597 per annum) are entitled to live completely rent free in a modern three-bedded semi-detached house (capital value in Sussex, say £18,000) for which we normally charge £10.00 per week. Equivalent to a subsidy of £520 per annum. If the man's circumstances change and

he obtains a better job at £99.24 per week (£5,160 per annum) he will still receive a rent rebate of 34p per week (£17.68 per annum).

Quite commonly rent rebates of £7.00 per week (£367 per annum) are claimed, eg, a single person with an



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 21: Miss P. M. Hutchinson was received in audience by Her Majesty the Queen this morning and kissed hands before her appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Montevideo.

His Excellency Senior José Juan de Obregón was received in audience by The Queen on the presentation of the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the United Mexican States to the Court of St James.

His Excellency Señor José Juan Embuscado, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty (Minister Counsellor Héctor Medina (Minister Counsellor), Señor Horacio Flores-Sánchez (Minister Counsellor), Señor Dr Carlos Tomás Pedralosa (Minister Counsellor), Señor Licenciado Andrés Lorenzo (Counsellor), Señor Licenciado Javier Pérez-Pérez (Counsellor), Señor Licenciado Jorge Ortega (Counsellor), Señorita María Carvalho (First Secretary), Captain Augusto Flores (Acting Second Secretary), Señora de Olóquiz and the honour of being received by the Queen.

Sir Edward Youde (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Edward Hayes (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President, saw a dinner party at Buckingham Palace this evening for Honorary Fellows of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. The Prince of Wales visited the Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, W.C.2, today.

The Hon. Edward Adeane was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 21: The Duke of Gloucester, as President of British Consultancy Bureau, was present at a seminar, "Sources of Support for British Consultants Working Abroad" at The Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London, W.1.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Blund was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 21: The Duke of Gloucester, as President of the Royal Naval Nursing Service, this afternoon, received Miss P. Gould upon relinquishing the appointment of Matron-in-Chief and Miss M. E. Collins upon assuming this appointment.

In the evening, Her Royal Highness and the Hon. Angus Ogilvy were present at the twenty-eighth Annual Maple Leaf Ball of the Canadian Women's Club at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London. Miss Moya Mitchell was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent celebrates her birthday today.

The Duke of Kent will open the Tower of London on March 25.

Buckingham Palace Luncheon
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attended a luncheon party at Buckingham Palace yesterday. The guests were:

Viscount De L'Isle, Viscount De L'Isle, Mr Sean O'Faolain, Mr Ronald Bell, QC, MP, chairman, Anzacs group of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, were hosts yesterday at a reception held in Westminster Hall in the name of the Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Receptions

Lord Bethell

Lord Bethell attended the annual reception of the Foreign Affairs Forum held yesterday evening at the House of Lords. The guests included members of HM Government and Conservative members of the Westminster and European Houses of Parliament.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Mr Dickson Mahon, MP, vice-chairman, UK branch, and Sir Ronald Bell, QC, MP, chairman, Anzacs group of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, were hosts yesterday at a reception held in Westminster Hall in the name of the Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand.

On the eve of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's annual dinner, which is to be held at the Hilton hotel, Lord Bethell and Sir Fred Carterwood, MEP, also spoke. Guests included:

The High Commissioner for Uganda, Mr Edward Russell, and some senior officials of the learned societies and professional bodies.

Guild of Freemen of the City of London

The Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, Mr. J. B. Curdus were the principal guests at a dinner held at the Park Lane Hotel last night. The Senior Warden, Mr. C. R. Coward, Mr. W. Arthur Hodgkinson and the Headmaster of the City of London Freemen's School and their ladies were among those present.

British Mexican Society

The British Mexican Society held a dinner yesterday at the Café Royal in honour of Dr José Juan de Olóquiz, the new Mexican Ambassador to Britain. The guests were Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Franklyn, novelist and historian; Sir John R. G. Archdeacon of Plymouth; Mr Colin Treadaway, headmaster of Westminster School; and Professor Alan Balow, professor of architecture, University of Technology, London University.

The Dowager Marchioness of Cholmondeley has left 12 Kensington Palace Gardens. Her return to her home in Beauchamp Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

INCURABLE?

-Yes

UNHAPPY?

-No

The British Home and Hospital for Incurables specialises in looking after men and women suffering from progressive paralysing diseases.

Sufferers from these diseases need very special care and attention.

Some are fit enough to go out to work. These live in a special wing of the Home. Some are helpless, bedridden—all these unlucky ones are in the hospital, nursed, amused, cared for.

The BHII receives no State aid. We must, therefore, rely upon your generosity. It is a very worthy cause.

PATRON: HM QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

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THE TIMES FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22 1980

Forthcoming marriages

The Rev N. J. W. Barker and Miss K. G. Pritchard. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of the Rev A. W. and Mrs Barker, of Dent, Cumbria, and Katherine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. Pritchard, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Mr J. Ghomizadeh and Miss C. A. Tyson. The engagement is announced between Issam, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. Miri Ghomizadeh, of Tehran, Iran, and Catherine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. A. Tyson, of Badminton, Ipswich.

Mr D. L. Rose and Miss E. McEvoy. The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. Rose, of Northenden, Manchester, and Andrea, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. F. McEvoy, of Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham.

Marriage

Mr A. M. S. Fort and Miss M. C. Richards. The marriage took place on February 14, in St George's Cathedral, Cape Town, South Africa. Mr Adrian Fort, Second Lieutenant Fort, of Union Place, St Peter Port, Guernsey, and Miss Margaret Claire Richards, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Richards, of St Helier, Jersey, Orangeheight, Cape Town, The Dean of Cape Town officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Andrea Richards and Miss Sally Richards. Mr Marcus Blaney was best man.

Luncheons

The Hon Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon held in Carlton House, London, to Senator Don Gonzalo Fernandez, Ambassador to the United States to the Court of St James.

Mr Edward Youde (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Edward Hayes (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Inter-Parliamentary Union

Mr John Potts, MP, Chairman of the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, was host at a luncheon held in honour of a parliamentary delegation from Luxembourg, led by M. Leon Spink and Son, the London dealers, span

Mr A. J. Brett and Mrs T. Fordham.

The engagement is announced between Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Brett, of Yoxum, York, and Tricia, daughter of the late Major Basil Minor, MBE, and the late Mrs James Carte and stepdaughter of Dr James Carte, of Coventry, Warwickshire.

Mr L. W. MacWatt and Miss A. E. Rawcliffe. The engagement is announced between Logan, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Hay MacWatt, of East Langdon, Kent, and Alison, daughter of Captain and Mrs Alexander Rawcliffe, of Dial Cottage, Kingsdown, Kent.

Mr R. Rosten and Miss A. Skinner. The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs Benjamin Rosten, of Sandgate, Kent, and Alison, daughter of Captain and Mrs Alexander Rawcliffe, of Dial Cottage, Kingsdown, Kent.

Mr P. A. L. Taser and Miss E. Powers. The engagement is announced between Philippe, elder son of M. C. Tasca, of Grenoble, and of Mine C. Tasca, of Thonon, France, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Powers, of Wimbleton, London.

Mr R. J. A. Richmond and Miss V. M. Arke. The engagement is announced between Adrian, younger son of Mr and Mrs H. J. Robinson, of Arundel, Sussex, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. R. Watling, of The Mint House, Rye, Sussex.

Mr A. H. Robinson and Miss E. J. Watling. The engagement is announced between Adrian, younger son of Mr and Mrs H. J. Robinson, of Arundel, Sussex, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. R. Watling, of The Mint House, Rye, Sussex.

Mr E. J. Scanlon and Miss P. E. Powers. The engagement is announced between Barry Joseph, only son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Scanlon, of Fawley, Oxfordshire, and Patricia Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs James Powers, of Chicago, United States.

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9,100 more US car workers to be laid off

Detroit, Feb 12.—General Motors said it will close two plants and partly shut down another next week, temporarily laying off 9,100 workers.

The company is to close the Detroit Cadillac plant and the companion Fisher Body Fleetwood plant, both for one week.

G.M.'s van line at Lordstown, Ohio, will also close down next week for the first of two weeks.

The company now has 92,100 hourly workers on indefinite layoff.—Reuter.

EEC deficit

The European Community's trade deficit with the rest of the world widened to 14,800m ECUs (£4,559m) in the first nine months of 1979, Eurostat, the EEC statistical office, reported.

Uranium warning

A lack of confidence in the uranium fuel market could lead to a severe supply shortage for nuclear power plants by the year 2000, an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development special report, compiled by its nuclear energy agency and international atomic agency said.

Japanese deal opposed

The Italian industry confederation has opposed the proposed venture between Alfa Romeo and the Japanese Nissan group while the Communist party is backing the deal. The Communists, who form the nation's second-largest party, say it will raise Alfa's output and create jobs.

Foreign cars needed

Mr Donald Fraser, the United Auto Workers union president, said the United States car industry needed the competition of foreign manufacturers, but that foreign producers should rely more on domestic labour he said.

Tourism outlook poor

Growth of international tourism continued last year despite the gradual deterioration of the economic situation, but prospects for 1980 are less favourable, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development said.

Investment falls

Foreign assets invested in the United States dropped by \$1,000m (about £440.5m) in last year's fourth quarter after a \$5,400m rise in the third quarter. The decrease is attributed to substantial sales of dollars to limit depreciation of the Japanese yen.

Oil imports decline

Japanese crude oil imports on an arrival basis fell in January by 7.7 per cent to 22.19 million kilotonnes from 24.04 million in December and down 11.5 per cent from the level a year earlier.

Record budget deficit

Switzerland's budget deficit rose to a record Sfr1,790m (about £486.4m) in 1979, which was 447 million francs higher than the shortfall officially forecast earlier.

Oil output rises

India will increase production from its offshore Bombay High Field to 240,000 barrels a day in 1982 from the present level of about 140,000 barrels.

Higher trade surplus

South Africa had a trade surplus of 761.3m rands (about £440m) in January from imports of R938.5m and exports of R1,700m. In December the surplus was R381.3m.

Irish production up

The Irish Republic's industrial output rose by a fractional 0.2 per cent in the third quarter of 1979 from the previous quarter. In September alone output volume rose by 8.7 per cent from the level a year earlier.

Cooperation sought

Japan and Mexico will hold a joint economic committee meeting in Tokyo next week to discuss energy and bilateral economic cooperation. Mexico is seeking Japanese help in port construction and railway electrification.

Iraq bus order

British Leyland's wholly-owned truck and bus subsidiary in South Africa has won an order worth 28 million rands, about £18.2m, to supply 200 double-decker buses to the Baghdad passenger transport service.

Programme tackles prices, balance of payments and unemployment

South Korea faces up to economic change

South Korea's official economic policy has undergone some important changes since the new government took over at the end of last year, after the assassination of President Park Chung Hee in October. The government economic planning board, headed by Lee Hahn-Been, the deputy premier, has just issued its economic management plan for 1980, outlining some of the changes and the reasoning behind them.

Rising oil prices, a sluggish demand for Korea's exports and a rapid increase in imports, made 1979 a hard year, raising consumer and wholesale prices, widening the deficit, and holding back exports. But its economic stabilisation policies successfully reduced the expansion of the money supply and aggregate consumption, and the economy still managed an overall growth rate of 7.1 per cent.

Faced with certain increases in oil prices in 1980, the economic management plan summarizes South Korea's three main problems. These are to restrain the rise in the overall price level, to deal with a further deterioration in the balance of payments, and to combat unemployment within a soundly-balanced rate of growth.

The government recognizes increased export competitiveness as the best solution to these problems and as a first step, devalued the won on January 12. Other monetary policies are under way, potential trading nations are keenly awaiting the outcome of loan negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and the South Korean government is considering floating the won which has been traditionally tied to the United States dollar—against a basket of currencies.

In an attempt to improve exports and revitalise the economy, the government intends not only to encourage more foreign

investment but to seek expansion beyond present markets.

Until 1977, investment from Japan and the United States accounted for nearly 30 per cent of all foreign investment in South Korea. Since then, Europe has come increasingly into the picture and the economic management plan notes Korea's intention of further market diversification in 1980, especially to the Middle East and the East European countries.

The government will seek more construction contracts in the Middle East and will encourage Korean companies to enter into joint ventures with oil companies and alternative energy producing countries.

In September 1979, the usual annual foreign investment amount was raised from \$200,000 (£58,105) to \$500,000 (£20,264) and the general principle of restricting foreign equity to 50 per cent was maintained with only a few exceptions.

The Korean Government preferred to borrow overseas and manufacture locally under licence as an alternative to direct foreign investment in industry. The minister in charge of the economic plan says: "It is cheaper to buy the technology and borrow the money."

But the 1980 economic management plan suggests a reversal of these policies, saying that there is no longer any reason for the government not to accept direct foreign investment and full foreign ownership.

This will apply particularly to totally export-oriented projects, to the electronics industry, to capital-intensive, sophisticated machinery industries, technology intensive industries and industries that do not conflict with established domestic industries.

The 1980 plan stresses the government's intention of promoting light industry. Small business will be opened to foreign investment and joint ventures with foreign companies will be permitted even when the amount of venture capital is less than the previously stipulated \$500,000.

Last September the economic planning board announced that there would be a gradual withdrawal of tax concessions to foreign investors, but although the new 1980 plan makes no mention of this, the board has let it be known that the present favourable laws will not be changed.

Government policy in 1980 is to promote free competition and to enact a free trade law which will in turn necessitate redefining the government role. Banking institutions are to be given a greater degree of autonomy in management and although a growth in imports is obviously undesirable, the government says it will not impose direct controls.

The economic management plan sums up South Korea's economic prospects for the next two years. An economic growth rate of between 3 and 5 per cent and a current account deficit of \$4,700m (£2,070m) are expected in 1980 but with a business recovery abroad, prospects for 1981 are brighter, with a probable economic growth rate of 7 to 8 per cent. The current account deficit is \$3,500m (£1,540m). To finance the deficit, the government intends to seek \$5,200m in foreign loans and investments in 1980 and \$4,000m in 1981. The government plans to maintain foreign exchange reserves at the \$6,200m (£2,730m) level in 1980 rising to \$6,700m (£2,951) in 1981.

Jacqueline Redditt

in Seoul

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Government must help small companies to invest

From Mr Rousland J. Gee

Sir, I support the present Government but feel they are ignoring the very people they are pledged to support and are being diverted by the present industrial unrest.

I am talking about the small company, specifically the small manufacturing concern employing 250 people or thereabouts, of which there are many hundreds of thousands.

It is vital that these firms operate on similar terms to their international competitors.

This takes money, I travel extensively throughout Europe,

specifically visiting textile

plants and now the magnificent facilities offered to the workforce, not only in terms of the most modern machinery available, but in the canteens, crèches, games rooms, training areas and offices. People respond to such conditions with efficiency.

Many of these superb

small factories are in Italy, a

country we are told, not as well

off as the United Kingdom.

My suggestions are as follows:

(1) Turnover of the company

requesting a grant should be provided for their last financial year.

(2) A percentage would be decided upon by the

ROWLAND J. GEE,

Cecil Gee International,

39/45 Shaftesbury Avenue,

London W1V 5AX.

Department of Industry. This amount would be the grant.

(3) Companies could apply on an annual basis.

(4) Manufacturing companies in every field should be invited to present ideas as to how this money should be spent.

(5) These ideas would be presented to a highly respected member of each industry concerned by the possibly selected by the CBI, working as a satellite of the DoI. He would be responsible for the implementation of these ideas.

The Tories, with higher VAT, North Sea oil revenue, public spending cuts and the like must do more about persuading small businesses to invest. Not just by tax relief incentives, since stock relief has enabled many companies in inflationary times to avoid heavy tax bills, but by direct grant.

My suggestions are as follows:

(1) Turnover of the company requesting a grant should be provided for their last financial year.

(2) A percentage would be decided upon by the

Hongkong Metro

From the Secretary of Consulting Engineers

Sir, We have read The Times supplement on the Hongkong Metro (February 12) with regrettable sorrow on behalf of our member firms and disappointment at the lack of courtesy exhibited by the writers.

The Hongkong Metro is among the largest public works projects ever undertaken. As one of the headlines correctly states it has been built ahead of schedule, but budget to go where it is six years is credit due to the British consulting engineers who conceived, planned and designed the project and from whom so much information appeared to have been gleaned.

The system will be unique among railway commuter systems for it will be self-supporting, meeting operating costs and paying off capital and interest charges out of revenue.

Paying wages in advance

Sir, We are a small company but our experience in the domain which is now publicly discussed may be of some relevance. In 1966/67 we employed about 100 persons paid weekly. We offered to pay their wages monthly but they all declined.

Last year we suggested to our London employees that they be paid not weekly in arrears but monthly in advance. They accepted. Some of the employees are part-timers receiving low wages. I am informed by all members of the staff that this is a system of paying wages is more convenient and enables them either to spend less or to save more. We have cut down administrative work by at least 50 per cent excluding certain other fringe economies.

We conclude that this experiment is beneficial to employer and employees.

Yours faithfully,

B. COHEN,

Finextra Limited,

1146 London Road,

London SW16 4DR.

February 19.

Post offices on wheels

From Mrs Margaret Peacock Sir, The mobile county library service has been successful in country areas for some time; has a mobile post office service been considered?

Yours sincerely,

MARGARET PEACOCK,

91 Plantation Road,

Oxford OX2 6JL.

February 20.

Micro-electronics

From Professor John Shepherd

Sir, In his letter of February 13 asking how a "centre of excellence" for the micro-electronics industry could be set up, D. Scouller, Southampton's Chief Executive, is thinking along similar lines to the electronics industry and education establishments in the Milton Keynes area.

If Mr Scouller seeks a "centre of excellence" may I respectfully suggest that he in Milton Keynes.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN SHEPHERD,

Cranfield Institute of Technology,

Wavendon Tower,

Wavendon, Milton Keynes MK17 8LX.

In and around our city there

are a number of educational

and commercial organizations

experts in various aspects of

micro-electronics and our com-

munity includes representatives

from the Open University,

Plessey, Scicon, Texas Insur-

ance and Cranfield Institute of

Technology.

We conclude that this exper-

iment is beneficial to employer

and employees.

Yours faithfully,

DEREK BLOOM, Chairman,

Fourth Channel Working

Party.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF BRITISH ADVERTISERS,

c/o 33 Old Bond Street,

London W1X 4AP.

These figures make no allow-

ance for the tax relief which

the borrower gets on the in-

terest element of his instal-

ments, or the 15 per cent in-

crease in the sale of television

sets over the years that it

proposes for the taxpayer and

for programme standards man-

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

France's way with foreigners

Thorn is the latest British company apparently to fall foul of France's nationalistic attitude towards foreign investment. After about six months' delay, it seems that the French authorities are trying to persuade local companies to pick up the interest in Locatel, a television rental company which Thorn would like to buy.

On the face of it, France's foreign investment rules are no more strict than elsewhere in Europe. No official permission is needed for foreign companies to acquire up to 20 per cent of French ones, a provision much in line with France's neighbours.

The difficulties arise when control, rather than an interest, is the object of foreign investment. Companies, particularly British and American, have noted two common experiences. Clear rules are hard to find, and once the government steps in, interminable delays follow. With some justification companies have suggested that the delays are a deliberate deterrent device.

The French authorities say they prefer their companies to be owned by local interests, and arranging a counter-bid is often complicated. They are especially suspicious of international companies, which they regard as stalking horses for Anglo-Saxon influence, and liable to increase imports into France. Despite assurances from Thorn, it is still believed by some people in Paris that Locatel might be used as a way of flooding France with Japanese electronic goods.

Electronics is an especially sensitive area. The present Thomson-Brandt organization was created by government pressure to resist American and German penetration of the French market. Similar strategic considerations applied to nuclear reactors, aircraft, and vehicles.

It may be that the practice of investment in France is much more involved than the rules suggest. No wonder that foreigners often feel they are not wanted. But it is hard to argue that the prosperity of France has been adversely affected.

Yesterday's third quarter figures for the public sector borrowing requirement were not encouraging. They show that after the first nine months of the present financial year, public sector borrowing totalled £11,072m on an unadjusted basis and £9,966m after seasonal adjustment.

The Government is going to need an unusually large surplus over the final three months of the year to meet the Chancellor's full year PSBR estimate of around £9,000m.

It appears to be reasonably confident, however, that the final outcome will in fact be on the right side of the £9,000m figure. For in addition to the additional revenues the Government announced for the final quarter, the asset sales target now appears to be seven up and the higher-than-forecast rises in average earnings have boosted income tax receipts.

Not that any of this meant much to financial markets yesterday. Nor indeed did (highly) provisional October-December stockbuilding figures that did not entirely square with last autumn's buoyancy in bank lending. The focus of attention is now firmly fixed on interest rate developments on the other side of the Atlantic and what the Chancellor may or may not do on March 26.

Bath and Portland

The Iranian episode

There comes a point in any dispute when it is time to call it a day and Bath and Portland's patience with Iran over its £100m road contract there has now run out.

Cushioned by the knowledge that some 90 per cent of the contract is insured through the Export Credits Guarantee Department, the group has given the Iranian authorities one last chance to meet its obligations—

DEUTSCHE BABCOCK

Deutsche Babcock's losses so far on the Neka power plant project in Iran total £m. Executive board chairman Hert Hans Ewaldsen told a press conference that the losses are not retrievable through West Germany's officially backed export insurance scheme.

Hert Ewaldsen said work on the Neka plant on the Caspian Sea coast cannot be completed as no gas or oil is being supplied to it, and the planned power transmission line from the plant is not completed.—Reuter.

CENTROMIN COPPER PLAN

Centromin, Peru's mining corporation, has obtained \$350m worth of credits for its copper expansion programme. Senior Guillermo Flores Pinedo, chairman, said Senior Flores said a new \$35m loan from the Inter-American Development Bank, added to earlier credits from other sources, brought the total credit available to \$350m.

The first stage of the long-delayed programme will expand output at the Cobriza copper mine, in the Central Andes, to 26,000 tonnes from 16,000 tonnes a year.—Reuter.

Business Diary: Good for film making • Rising star in stocks

Hollywood is fast intruding into life at the Mayfair offices of Arthur Guinness and Son, where talk of touts, stout and television commercials is usually the order of the day.

Richard St Johns, star of the company's recently acquired film production group, is to be found there, talking to film men about next year's big films, laying the groundwork for this year's releases and delighting in the laissez-faire management attitude of his new bosses.

"Guinness are just great—they leave me alone", says St Johns, whose Hollywood background lies in his mother Adela, one-time Los Angeles journalist and script editor for RKO, and now a frequent interviewee on Thames Television's Tuesday night series on the early film industry.

The Irish drinking company inherited a stake in St Johns' Los Angeles Film Finance Group through its takeover of the Kimpliner advertising agency. It increased its stake to 60 per cent last year.

The fruits are now starting to appear, all of them with St Johns' name on the billing as executive producer.

Front runners for success are The Final Countdown, which is a showcase for Kirk Douglas, who stars, and his son Peter, who directs, and Dead and Buried, from the writing team behind the immensely successful Alien.

Sadly, one-time British television commercial director, Ridley Scott, will not be working on Dead and Buried, having progressed to directorial stardom in Hollywood.

St Johns limits Film Group's stake in productions to no more than 10 per cent and raises the rest of the budget from the big studios, conventional sources and pre-sale advances.

He sees FFG's role as that of a developer of sound, commercial ideas and refers to unproven sources of schemes which are not fully worked out before they reach him.

The Guiness money will stay, he says, as a base element in Hollywood. St Johns says that is where the talent is, though he is spending some money on The Final Countdown in England on special effects and the score.

One unexpected consequence of the Russian occupation of Afghanistan is the disappearance of cheaper fox furs. Before the Russians moved in, the Afghani traders used to send their supply of pelts over the Pakistan border where they were sold to western fur merchants. But the effective closure of the North-West frontier border has led to a dearth of the conference circuit.

He rose to fame on his "Stock of the year". This time last year he told several hum-

Roger Underhill, Director General of the Advertising Association, faces a hectic week-end of scribbling reports, thanks to a bottleneck of important events.

The Institute of Practitioners in Advertising's important 1980 conference opens at Stratford on Sunday, two days before the equally important EEC Commission public hearing on consumer affairs legislation in Dublin.

Underhill will be one of those responsible for the advertising industry's contribution to the Dublin's debate, which will cover such controversial matters as statutory controls on advertising and product liability.

If Underhill feels overworked, he should pity the poor hacks. The Advertising Star:

• Investment conferences are big business in America, where increasing numbers of people are becoming worried by the twin dangers to their savings of inflation and taxation.

By and large the investors at these conferences, but few speakers show the guts to be specific. One notable exception is Lawrence Monberg, Jr, a dapper and flamboyant Florida stockbroker and rising star of the conference circuit.

He rose to fame on his "Stock of the year". This time last year he told several hum-

dred potential investors in Miami to watch Standard Microsystems Corporation, then trading at \$84. The latest price is \$14—not a sensational advance, but a gain.

Monberg has now announced his 1980 "Stock of the Year". Magnet Metals, part of a group of oil and gas leaseholders in Australia.

Even if Monberg's star fails to shine, however, investors at the conference can take some comfort. Under American tax laws acquiring advice about investment is a legitimate deduction.

The Halifax Building Society is jumping up to the clearing banks' bandwagon and launching its own cash dispensing card next month.

But the philosophy of "if you can't beat 'em join 'em" is not the reason why.

Cardcash, the pride and joy of general manager and director Calum Macaskill, is yet another way in which the building societies are seeking out to fill the breach left when banks shut up shop on Saturday mornings.

Instead of queuing in the local Halifax branch, Cardcash holders can now draw up to £200 in notes from the cash dispenser. However, as building societies are not empowered to let their investing members go into the red, the machine politely refuses to cough up if the money is not there.

The Halifax has run a pilot scheme with its own staff for 12 months.

In order to use Cardcash properly there is little doubt that people will want to have their salaries paid directly to the building society. But one man who will not be director and chief general manager Albert Thayre. Pleased as he is with the prospects for this particular bit of plastic, he prefers the anonymity of the bank he has used all his life.

David Hewson

Peter Hill reports on the efforts being made to cut the steel industry down to size

BSC's grim vision of the future

Today the British Steel Corporation will receive the steel unions' counter proposals to its "final offer". Given that the strike is about to enter its third month and attitudes on both sides have become increasingly bitter, prospects of real progress towards resolution of the dispute are far from bright. But the dispute over the size of the eventual settlement is only part of the appalling prospect for the corporation.

stronger than the one we have put forward", he says. That assertive view is shared not only by managing directors of divisions but by the corporation's analysts and marketing and sales teams. But are their prognoses correct?

The corporation claims that the evidence suggests that they are right. The BSC's record in forecasting future prices has won many prizes for accuracy. This time round, however, it believes that it is more than directionally correct.

It is no use, says Mr Gordon Sambrook, the corporation's commercial managing director, for the unions to urge BSC to sell more—against the background of a 100 million tonne surplus of world capacity and highly competitive foreign prices.

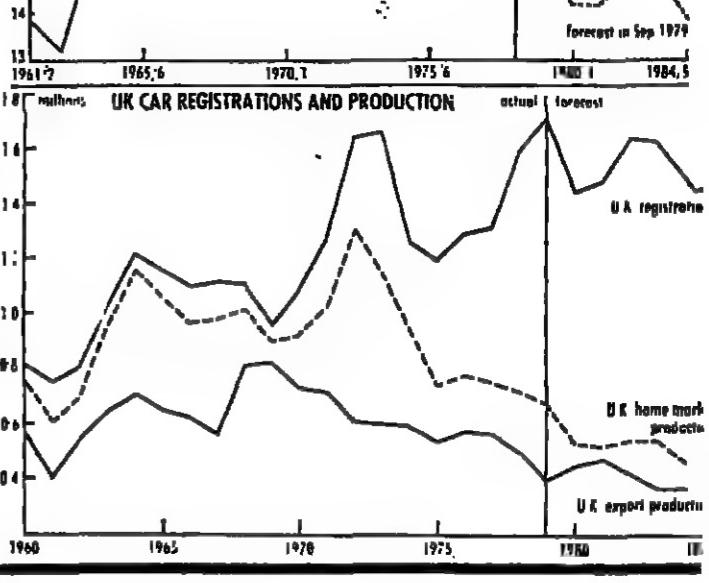
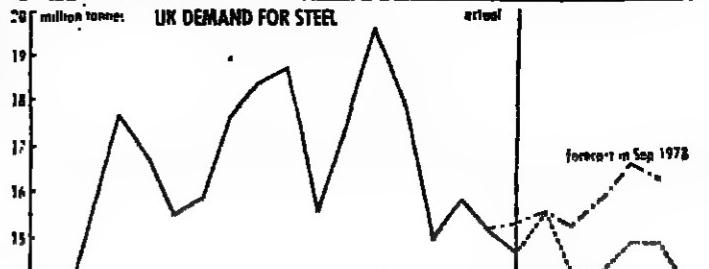
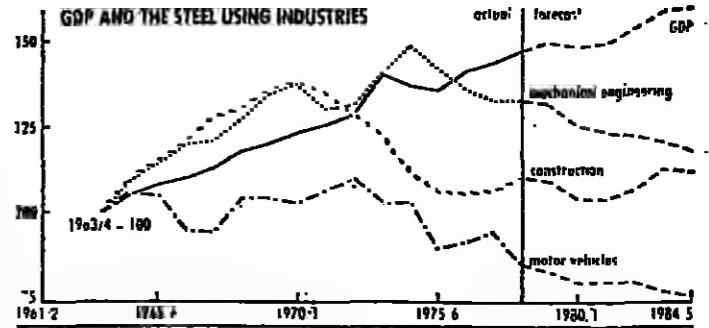
As the charts indicate, the outlook is gloomy in the big steel using industries and the strength of sterling is acting against foreign sales. Exports to the United States—where there any at the moment—would be costing the corporation £30 a tonne in lost profits. The strength of the pound coupled with inflation, and the BSC's present cost structure is a key factor in the planned export curtailment.

The message which the corporation has sought to impress on the unions is quite simply that the steel market has fundamentally changed, that other nations have reacted to and unless the BSC reacts to the consequences will be even more for retarding United Kingdom demand for finished steel in the coming financial year, according to corporate forecasts.

These moves can only serve to underline the difficulties which the BSC will face in clawing back the inevitable loss of market share which will result from the strike. Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of imported steel is at present lying inside dock gates waiting to be released.

The corporation has produced a whole panoply of illustrative material which will be unfolded before the eyes of union leaders next week. It is designed to press home the message of the need to make better use of the costly resources at its disposal.

Against the background of the government-set targets of reaching a financial break-even in the new financial year and no prospect of the Government easing the strait-jacket of the £450m cash limit, the task of persuasion is getting more difficult by the day.



FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Uranium profits soar at Mary Kathleen

Profits at Mary Kathleen, the Australian producer indirectly owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, soared last year from \$A570,000 to \$A17.3m (\$8.52m).

Furthermore, accumulated tax losses meant that no tax was payable, though the company warns that it will become liable to taxation this year.

No dividends are being paid, but production was up from 508 tonnes of U308 in 1978 to 822 tonnes. Output in the fourth quarter was 233.7 tonnes.

Another Australian company, Western Mining, announced that it will not extend its bid for BH South because CTB nominees, holders of 15.3 per cent of BH South, have rejected the offer. Acceptances came to 58.3 per cent by January 18. Some of BH South's assets will be sold to Conzinc Riotinto of Australia.

The great Australian diamond rush also received another fillip yesterday with the news that Pennell Australia, the United States company, is expected to start prospecting seriously for stones at Rutherford, some 300 kilometres north of Melbourne.

The other big rush of the moment, gold, has encouraged the Philippines to raise gold production. Output is expected to rise from 17,450 kilogrammes last year to 20,152 this year. The extra gold will come from new mines, higher output from existing ones, and more production as a by-product from copper.

Platinum is another precious metal which has benefited from the boom. Sir Alastair Robinson, chairman of Rustenburg Platinum, warns in his annual review, that the free market price has been driven to levels unjustified by normal market conditions. He says that sales in the first half of 1980 will be lower than in the same period last year, because of falling demand for cars in the United States.

The South African gold and investment group Gold Fields Property, part of Gold Fields of South Africa, made pre-tax profits in the six months to September 30, of R1.33m (\$74,000), compared with R1.35m for whole of the previous financial year.

Amalgamated Tin Mines of Nigeria is proposing to return £1.17m in surplus funds to shareholders by way of a capital payment of 9p a share and two interim dividends of 3p net each. The capital arises from the enforced sale of assets in Nigeria.

Sotheby's capital spending rises to £5.1m

Capital spending of fine art auctioneers Sotheby Parke-Bernet rose last year from £1.69 million to £5.1 million. The major part of the programme went on the Aeolian Hall opposite the Royal London premises in Bond Street. Sotheby Beresford Adams and the new property at 1334 New York Avenue at 72nd Street in New York.

In August the group bought a 30-year lease on the New York property and intends to buy the freehold for \$80,000 this year, under special finance agreements with the group's bankers.

Auction sales for the first four months of the current year are 31 per cent ahead at £94.34 million, with the most significant advance coming from the United States and Canada.

AVON RUBBER
Lord Farmham, chairman, told the annual meeting that order books in most group companies are healthy, although margins are under continuing pressure. Board believes improvement in year's profits is still possible.

Bank Base Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 11%										
Laid down 15 Dec 1979. Last revised 17th Dec 1979. Discount Rate 11%.										
Midnight Rate 11%.										
Treasury Bills/Deposits										
Maturity	Settling									
1 month	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
2 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
3 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
4 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
5 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
6 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
7 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
8 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
9 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
10 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
11 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
12 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
13 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
14 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
15 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
16 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
17 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
18 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
19 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
20 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
21 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
22 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
23 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
24 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
25 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
26 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
27 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
28 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
29 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
30 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
31 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
32 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
33 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
34 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
35 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
36 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
37 months	15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%		15.1%	
38 months	15.1%		15.1%							

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY **BELL'S**

Stock Exchange Prices **Oils buoyant**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 11. Dealings End, Feb 22; Contango Day, Feb 23. Settlement Day, March 3.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

* Ex dividend. + Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment missed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. i Pre-merger figures. x Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. t Ex script or share split. Tax free. + Prior adjusted for late dealings. - Not significant.

Motoring

Sympathy and cash for banned drivers

The drinking and driving laws are often criticized for being ineffectual and the Government is considering a belated implementation of the recommendations of the Blennerhassett committee, which reported nearly four years ago.

The controversial issue is so-called random breath testing. Blennerhassett proposed that the police power to administer tests should be "unfettered", although that has not been taken to mean that officers would lie in wait outside public houses. It is an issue on which the Government has yet to wake up its mind.

That something needs to be done to deter the drinking driver is underlined by Department of Transport statistics showing that 1,200 road accident deaths a year are the result of drunken driving and that one car driver in every three killed is above the legal blood-alcohol limit.

To deter the drinking driver is

against that background it is not easy to have sympathy with bodies which offer insurance to motorists against losing their licences. Surely that is only encouraging irresponsible drivers to drink with impunity knowing that they will not suffer the ultimate sanction of losing their personal mobility?

It is a question that is often put to Mr Martin O'Neill. He is managing director of St Christopher Motorists' Society Association which offers cover against disqualification—whether through a drink offence or the taking up process—as well as the cost of the car through damage or theft. For a premium of £58 a year, a motorist can receive up to £3,640 to enable him to hire a vehicle with a driver or pay a chauffeur.

Not surprisingly, Mr O'Neill is quick to reject the charge of irresponsibility. He points out that a convicted driver is still fined, that the penalty remains on his record, that he will probably carry a social stigma and that his car insurance, when he can resume driving, may well double.

Second, St Christopher tries to exclude the really heavy drinkers by refusing to cover motorists with a blood-alcohol count of more than 160 mg a ml, or twice the legal limit. Third, if a person is disqualified, he is not entitled to make a further claim on St Christopher for three years.

Mr O'Neill's customers, there are 40,000 of them and the number has doubled in the last five years, are predominantly professional people like accountants, lawyers, doctors and estate agents for whom the use of a car is essential to their work.

He argues that they are not, on the whole, deliberate flouters of the law but decent citizens who can, almost unwittingly, find themselves in trouble.

A doctor, for instance, may be called out suddenly after having a family drink, drive home and find himself marginally over the limit. Should he run the risk of losing his livelihood without taking steps to cover himself against disqualification?

Although Mr O'Neill accepts that drinking and driving is the main reason why St Christopher exists, claims under that head account for only 40 per cent of the total. An analysis of other histories suggests that the typical "victim" may be a heavy or aggressive drinker, but someone who has taken to drinking temporarily because of pressure of work or personal difficulties. Almost no one makes a second claim.

Another St Christopher activity is selling a do-it-yourself breath tester. It does so, arguing that if a driver has an instrument in his car to tell him whether he is breaking the speed limit, he should also be able to tell him his blood-alcohol count. The Government, however, agrees with Blennerhassett that self-testing is not to be recommended because it might encourage drivers to drink until they are as near the legal limit as possible.

Now heaven help the poor British industry. Japanese models are not only reliable but becoming more competitive in other respects. They are getting more "European", both in appearance and mechanical layout. That is evident in the Datsun range, in the latest Toyota Corolla which goes on sale in Britain next



Getting better—the revised Colt Lancer

little else—not that I am criticizing motorists who value a car's ability to start first time and travel from A to B without breaking down above advanced technical features like front-wheel drive and independent rear suspension. As vehicles to drive, they often leave much to be desired, being notable for vague steering, instability in cross winds and poor ride; they were cramped inside, particularly in the rear seat; and the styling was bastardized Detroit.

Now heaven help the poor British industry. Japanese models are not only reliable but becoming more competitive in other respects. They are getting more "European", both in appearance and mechanical layout. That is evident in the Datsun range, in the latest Toyota Corolla which goes on sale in Britain next

month and in the revised Colt

medium car, the Lancer.

The extent of the improvement should not be exaggerated. The Lancer has not suddenly been transformed into a Ciroen or even a Peugeot. It remains a conventional, unprepossessing four-door family saloon in the Ford Cortina/Vauxhall Cavalier mould, although without the space of the former or the fine, taut handling of the latter. Overall it is much less easy to criticize this Lancer than its predecessors: not an outstanding car in any respect, but a thoroughly competent one.

The move to more European design begins with the styling of the new bodyshell, being cleaner and less embellished than before, with more glass area and the fashionably sloping front end. The body is also higher and wider, increasing interior

space, but a tall person will still be pushed for legroom in the back. As on other Japanese cars, I found the front door opening rather narrow and the boot, despite its depth, is small for the class of car.

There is a good driving position, seat and steering wheel being adjustable to suit most shapes and sizes. Steering wheel height adjustment is an excellent feature and I wish more cars had it. The controls and instruments are near and functional and I thought the heating and ventilation system, with its large number of permutations, a cut above many. The seats are covered in an attractive velour cloth, indeed the whole interior is attractively trimmed and finished.

The Lancer comes with a choice of 1500cc and 1400cc engines. Driving the smaller, I enjoyed instant starting and rapid acceleration. The 1600cc engine is also 1400cc with reasonable flexibility. The engine is very smooth and quiet when treated gently but has a throaty growl if pressed hard or driven above 60 mph in top. There is little wind or road noise. On fuel consumption I returned a creditable 28 to 35 miles to the gallon.

Handling and ride are areas where Japanese cars are often let down but if the Lancer is not up to the best European models in either respect, it is closing the gap.

Continued adherence to the old fashioned recirculating ball steering system means too much free play in the straight ahead position, not very pleasant when the car is being buffeted off line by strong cross winds.

The vehicle corners well, with little roll and firm roadholding, the brakes are good and the four-speed gearbox, a delight. On ride, the substitution of coil for leaf springs has meant a considerable improvement and one can think of few Japanese cars that soak up bumps as well.

Coupling £4,399, the Lancer 1400 offers a high level of standard equipment, including a laminated windscreen, radio and aerial, halogen headlights and electronic ignition.

Clever Engine

Saab has developed an ingenious electronic system that enables a car engine to run on fuel of octane ratings from 91 to 99 in British terms, from two-star to the top-grade, four-star petrol—without prior adjustment. It also improves performance and fuel consumption.

Known as APC (for automatic performance control), the system is about to undergo final tests before being incorporated into the Saab turbocharged engine in about a year. At its heart are an electronic "black box" and solenoid valve which allow the engine to adjust itself automatically to the quality and octane rating of the fuel used.

That, in turn, improves engine efficiency which, together with an increase in compression ratio, reduces fuel consumption of the turbo unit by up to 8 per cent. The gains in acceleration are even better—between 15 and 20 per cent.

Peter Waymark

CAR BUYER'S GUIDE

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1980 V 605. Cai automatic. 4,000 miles. Grey. Red hide. Interior. £17,500.

PERSONAL CHOICE

Margareta Scott who plays Daphne Porter in the Southern Television series *Together* (ITV, 1.30)

The Lively Arts profile of the American poet Robert Lowell (BBC 2, 8.00) follows close on the heels of Ian Hamilton's and Michael Kustow's anthology of the National Theatre's *Cotillion* in which Lowell's grand style, political commitment and the often painfully subjective nature of his poetry were all given full rein. Tonight's documentary is all-embracing: eulogies from literary witnesses and friends and archive material of the poet himself, including his own readings of his poems and poetry, and just enough filling in of his political, social and literary background to explain why, when Lowell contemplated the world, he so often changed his vantage point. His manic-depressive bouts are most movingly touched upon.

To watch Bruce Forsyth at work in *Play Your Cards Right* (ITV, 7.30) is like seeing someone pass the end-of-purp of Bittersea power station to light a match there. This game calls for nerves of steel, nothing else; no general knowledge aptitude, no physical skill, no mental agility. It does not require an accomplished all-round like Mr Forsyth to keep it going.

Any competent quiz master could conduct the proceedings with one hand tied behind his back, blindfolded, standing on one leg and playing bridge at the same time.

There is some essential background information you should tuck away in your mind before you switch on to tonight's game in *Pot Black* (BBC 2, 9.00). The match is between Terry Griffiths of Wales, and Dennis Taylor, of Northern Ireland. Mr Griffiths won the 1978 World Snooker Championship; this man he beat was the semi-finalist Mr Taylor. Tonight's game is their first clash in the *Pot Black* series in which the Welshman has yet to win a victory, whereas the Irishman has one win to his credit. The dramatic nature of tonight's encounter will now have been made absolutely clear to you.

Next Wednesday's BBC 2 presentation of *The Tempest* is the subject of two curtain-raisers tonight. On BBC 2, at 10.45, Laurens van der Post, discovered on a Mediterranean island, insists that the play is profoundly autobiographical. And on Radio 4, at 8.10, Michael Hordern who plays Prospero in Cedric Messina's production—I have seen it, and I rate Mr Hordern's performance one of the pinnacles in the BBC's current Shakespeare cycle—provides a preface to the play. . . . Radio 4's five-part series about women writers ends today (11.05 am) on what should be a high note: a portrait of Dorothy Parker. Elaine Stritch portrays the American humorist.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: (STEREO) *BLACK AND WHITE: (C) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davall

TELEVISION

BBC 1

- 6.40 am Open University: Search and Rescue; 7.05 Time, Money and Technology; 7.30 Stereochemistry. Closedown at 7.35.
- 8.00 Schools, Colleges: *Treffpunkt: Deutschland*; 9.25 Athlete (triplet jump); 9.52 Look and Read; 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box; 10.35 Golde to Work; 11.00 *Hymn o' Fynd*. 12.25 You and Me: I Want to Help (r).
- 11.40 Schools, Colleges: Everyday Maths; 12.05 pm Your Own Business (improving the environment). Closedown at 12.30.
- 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Ian Lyon presents his leisure and holiday choice, and Peter Seabrook is back in the garden.
- 1.30 Schools: Mr Forgerful and Mr Uppity (r).
- 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: *Scene (The Travellers)*; 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects (the planners). Closedown at 3.00.
- 2.30 Schools, Cymru: For Welsh viewers, 3.55 Play School: Same as BBC 2, 11.00.
- 4.20 Roobarb: Anecdotes taken from children, told by Richard Briers (r).
- 4.30 Jackanory: Final reading from Ursula Moray Williams's story *Bogwoppit*, by Prunella Scales.

BBC 2

- 5.40 Open University (art on film); 5.55 Earth Materials (1); 7.30 Brick by Brick. Closedown at 7.35.
- 11.00 Play School: Wilma Horbruch's story *The Hump-backed Bridge*. Closedown at 11.25.
- 12.45 Open University: Your Own Optics Laboratory; 5.15 Copper as a Resource.
- 5.40 Harold Lloyd: Highlights from two of this silent film comedian's movies, *Safety Last* (the laundry-ride) and *Get Out and Get Under* (trouble with a Model T). With an irate commentary by his closest friends pay tribute to the man and the poet. A film by David Cheshire.
- 5.50 Monkey: Old Chinese fantasy, re-told by Japanese TV, with English dubbing.
- 6.50 Delia Smith's Cookery Course: How to put the taste back into chicken. Also, how to joint a bird

and how to prepare roast duck with cherry sauce.

7.15 News: With subtitles for the hard of hearing.

7.30 In the Country: Last of the series. The wading birds of the Dee Estuary, and the round-up of the Exmoor ponies. Also a discussion on whether nature reserves should be for people as well as wild life, With Angela Rippon.

6.00 Robert Lowell: A Life Study. The American poet, who died in 1977, with his wife, Elizabeth Bishop, and reading it, and many of his closest friends pay tribute to the man and the poet. A film by David Cheshire.

11.15 Financial World: News and weather.

11.30 Top of the Pops: The pop music show.

12.30 Top of the Pops: Part one of a new Francis Durbridge thriller. Martin Jarvis again plays the detective. Tonight, the routine investigation that isn't.

9.00 News: with Kenneth Kendall.

10.15 Top of the Pops: Who killed the record company chief? Was it the girl, found gun in her hand, near his body?

10.15 *Paints of View*: Barry Took returns with *Paints of View*. *Lucille Ball*—*The Lucy Show*, Lucille Ball, demonstrating that a woman come-

THAMES

- 9.30 am For Schools: Botanic Man (David Bellamy in New Zealand); 9.57 Stop, Look, Listen (Bricks); 10.10 Work (effects of unemployment); 10.27 It's Your Future (job agencies); 10.48 About Books; 11.10 Reading with Lucy; 12.25 Leapfrog (maths for 4-7 year-olds); 11.39 Believe It or Not! (Six Way of Life); 12.15 Cartoon: The Mite of Trouble (r).
- 12.00 A Handful of Songs: Sung by Maria Morgan and Keith Field. With Murray Cook's pictures.
- 12.10 pm Once Upon a Time: Peter Davison tells Bob Hill's story *The Enormous Turnip* (r).
- 5.30 The Television Programme: Behind the small screen, with Peter Fiddick. A look at such amenable subjects as sex, violence, politics, bad language, and banned television commercials.
- 1.00 News: 1.20 Thames News.
- 1.30 *Wednesday*: Life in a block of flats. Sad tidings for Daphne Porter.
- 2.00 After Noon Plus: Sufferers from jealousy—two men and a woman—discuss the obsession with psychiatrist Glyn Seaborn Jones. 2.20 Film: *Contracted* (1935). Thriller with Richard Greene as the FBI agent on the track of the gang to which his murdered brother belonged.
- 4.15 The Tomorrow People: Episode 1 of *Castle of Fear*. Teenagers hunt the Loch Ness Monster (r).
- 4.45 *Masters of the Universe*: "Paint a Vehicle of the Future" competition. Also a feature on the man who imports more live fish in Britain than anybody else.
- 5.15 *Emmerdale Farm*: A short stay at home for Jack Sugden.
- 5.30 News: 6.00 Times.
- 12.30 The Television Programme: Behind the small screen, with Peter Fiddick. A look at such amenable subjects as sex, violence, politics, bad language, and banned television commercials.

London Weekend

- 7.00 The Muppet Show: Television's female counterpart to *Superwoman* (Wendy Davies, *Carrot*) enters this puppet world. She brings with her a strange musical group called The Rubber Band.
- 7.30 *Play Your Cards Right*: Bruce Forsyth is not fully stretched as

the MC of this game in which contestants have to answer pointed questions. (Personal Choice.)

8.00 *Life Begins at Forty*: Comedy sketch with David Nimmitt and Rosemary Letts as a married couple. Tonight, the wife lands a hand with the hotel's spring fair.

8.30 Hawaii Five-O: Steve McGarrett (Jack Lord) tries to prove the innocence of a lawyer accused of killing his blackmail.

9.30 Fully Licensed for Singing and Dancing: Comedian Roy Walker is your guide on a tour of nightclubs, discos and cabaret rooms. A new series.

10.00 News and weather.

11.45 Pro-Celebrity Snooker: Canadian Cup Trophy game from Leeds.

12.30 am Close: Bernard Hepton reads two William Blake poems.

1.00 London except: 2.45 pm *Housewife, 5.30 Housewives*.2.00 *Life Begins at Forty*: Comedy sketch with David Nimmitt and Rosemary Letts as a married couple.2.30 *Hawaii Five-O*: Steve McGarrett (Jack Lord) tries to prove the innocence of a lawyer accused of killing his blackmail.3.30 *Fully Licensed for Singing and Dancing*: Comedian Roy Walker is your guide on a tour of nightclubs, discos and cabaret rooms. A new series.

4.00 News and weather.

4.45 *Pro-Celebrity Snooker*: Canadian Cup Trophy game from Leeds.

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